FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 DECEMBER 1984

Mauritania

According to AFP, a coup has installed former Prime Minister Maaouyia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya as Mauritania's new leader, ousting President Mohamed Haydala, who was attending the Franco-African summit meeting in Burundi. AFP also quoted Radio Nouakchott as saying "everything was calm" in the Mauritanian capital and added that a communique signed by Taya had announced the "restructuring" of the Military Committee of National Salvation, the governing body of the country, although all ministers have reportedly retained their posts.

Iran-Iraq conflict

An Iranian military spokesman denied Iraq's 11 December claim of an attack on Gulf shipping, IRNA reported, citing confirmation from "nautical sources" in Manama that there had been no report of vessels being hit. At the battlefronts, Iraqi fighter planes returned safely after inflicting heavy losses during further combat missions in the Maysan sector, according to an Iraqi Armed Forces communique broadcast by Baghdad radio.

Lebanon

In Damascus, Syrian President Hafiz Al-Asad received Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt for talks on the Lebanese situation, according to Damascus television. Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam also discussed Lebanon with visiting U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, the television noted.

As for Israel's threat to stage a unilateral withdrawal if the impasse in the Al-Naqurah talks continues, a Lebanese official cited by Beirut radio stressed that this step will mean the "death" of the talks and will create security disturbances in the south.

Israel

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has accepted an invitation from President Nicolae Ceausescu to visit Romania, probably in February, *THE JERUSALEM POST* reported.

Syria

Unidentified gunmen fired at the Syrian charge d'affaires in Athens, who escaped the assassination attempt and fired back at his attackers, Athens radio announced.

Afghanistan

Soviet and Afghan forces are strengthening their defenses around Kabul, Karachi radio reported, adding that trenches have been dug around the city and rocket launchers installed at Kabul airport. Last week the mujahidin's "frequent" rocket attacks on the city tapered off, according to Western diplomatic sources cited by SPA. Meanwhile, Karachi radio noted, Pakistan lodged a strong protest with the DRA over a cross-border bombing raid in Kurram.

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'Arafat Returns to Tunis From N. African Tour

JN111703 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived at the Palestinian leadership headquarters in Tunis yesterday from a tour which covered Algeria and Mauritania. During this tour, Brother Abu 'Ammar informed the Algerian and Mauritanian presidents of the results of the PNC session.

Our radio correspondent in Tunis has learned that brother leader Abu 'Ammar will visit Rabat soon in order to inform King Hassan II and senior Moroccan officials of the resolutions and recommendations adopted by the PNC session in Amman. Our correspondent has also learned that Brother Abu 'Ammar will call a meeting of the new PLO Executive Committee following the political moves currently being undertaken by certain committee members in order to adopt several important decisions on restoring the cohesion of the PLO institutions.

In the meantime, several Palestinian moves are being undertaken on the international level. A delegation comprising Brothers Jamal al-Surani, Abu al-'Abbas [Mahmud 'Abbas], and Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman is visiting Belgrade. After Belgrade, the delegation will tour several socialist bloc countries. Another delegation comprising brothers Muhammad Milhim and 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad is visiting the PRC and the ASEAN countries. A third delegation is visiting seven African countries. The delegations are carrying messages from brother leader Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, to the leaders of these countries explaining the situation in the region, especially what pertains to the Palestine question. The messages also review the results of the recent PNC session.

'Arafat Interviewed on PNC, Other Issues

JN111720 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has said that the PNC session that concluded its work last month in Amman provided a clear answer to the proposal made by King Husayn of Jordan. In an interview which will be published in the Paris-based Arabic magazine *KULL AL-'ARAB* on Wednesday, Brother Abu 'Ammar added that the PNC political statement gave that answer when it rejected Resolution 242, which considers our people's cause only as a refugee question, and when it supported the convocation of an international conference on the basis of what the Arabs agreed upon at the Fes Summit.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar explained that the PLO refuses to demand an amendment to Resolution 242, and said: We want a new resolution that provides for our right to self-determination. Brother Abu 'Ammar also explained that the 17th PNC session has rallied more Arabs against the U.S.-Israeli plot, whose main aim is the sectarian division in Lebanon which they are trying to apply to the entire region. He pointed out that the PNC session constituted a new starting point concerning the Palestinian situation and a new turning point concerning the whole Arab situation.

Concerning Egypt, Brother Abu 'Ammar said: There is no doubt that there is an Egyptian inclination to get out of Camp David.

Replying to a question about the seriousness of Zionist War Minister Yitzhqa Rabin's threat to Jordan, Brother Abu 'Ammar said: We must take him seriously [words indistinct] the Arab nation must, under no circumstances, abandon the military option. Any nation that abandons this option will be deleted from the annals of history. He proudly added that the Palestinian and Lebanese national resistance is waging the most splendid Arab battles against the Zionist enemy.

Fatah's Khalid al-Hasan on Syria, Reagan Plan

GF111640 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 11 Dec 84 pp 18, 19

[Interview with Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and official in charge of foreign relations at the PNC, by *AL-ITTIHAD* correspondent Taha al-Nu'man in Amman — date not given]

[Excerpts] *AL-ITTIHAD*: About Syrian-Palestinian relations: These relations seem to be a vital element for the confrontation movement with the enemy in peace and in war. There was much talk during the PNC session about the necessity of correcting these relations. It seems that all people are expecting the green light to come from Damascus. What are you going to do on your side, the Palestinian resistance, to correct these relations? Do you believe in any practical action in this regard?

Khalid al-Hasan: On this basic question I can say that the PLO should have normal relations with Syria and Jordan. This is our triangle, because through normal relations between Jordan, Syria, and the PLO, Syria can have a leading role in the Palestinian cause. I do not know whether the brothers in Syria realize this or not. Our problem, as Arabs, is that we always think that the world believes in what we believe in. The world believes in what it believes in.

Consequently, the world is ready to deal with Jordan and not with Syria on the West Bank, and is ready to deal with Egypt and not with Syria, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, or any other Arab country on the Gaza Strip owing to political geography and the existing international circumstances. On this basis we have always been endeavoring to normalize our relations with Syria.

AL-ITTIHAD: There is much ambiguity about the PLO's position toward the Reagan initiative. This ambiguity may have resulted from the fact that some Palestinian leaders believe that this initiative contains some positive elements. We want to know your view on this initiative in a comprehensive way and your final decision on it.

Al-Hasan: There is nothing good for Palestinians in Reagan's initiative. Reagan has ignored our existence as a people. Hence, how can we accept the initiative? We cannot deal with an Arab or foreign initiative unless such initiative recognizes the Palestinian people and their right to self-determination, and recognizes the PLO as the representative of this people.

AL-ITTIHAD: Why was Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] chosen as chairman of the PLO Executive Committee by the PNC directly this time, instead of being elected by the Executive Committee as was the case previously?

Al-Hasan: This is only a moral issue. In the end, the Executive Committee should elect Abu 'Ammar as its chairman according to the prevailing system. However, the PNC gave Abu 'Ammar this power because there was a battle against him personally.

PLO's Al-Qawasimah on Relations with Syria, Egypt

PM111600 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 8 Dec 84 p 3

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee member Fahd al-Qawasimah by Mahir 'Abbas and Yusuf al-Hamadani in Riyadh — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: The mediations aimed at improving PLO-Syrian relations have assumed various dimensions. What future is there for PLO-Syrian dialogue?

Answer: The dialogue with Syria has been an objective before, during, and after the PNC session. We do not hold grudges. We are concerned with the causes of our people and with the causes of liberation. There is no such thing as grudges. The PNC resolutions imply that all means should be used to restore relations with Syria while preserving the independent Palestinian decisions, the Palestinian people's freedom, and the PLO. We will do our best to achieve that. We want to restore relations with Syria because Syria is still Arab, although we disagree with it on certain things. We have no dispute with the Syrian people and never will.

Question: The PNC has left the door open for a settlement of the dispute with the factions which did not attend the PNC's 17th session. Would it be possible to convene a new PNC if a solution is found in the coming period?

Answer: We have tried to settle the differences between the Palestinian resistance factions. Actually, since the disagreement began and even during the PNC session, everyone has been trying to settle the differences and restore relations and Palestinian unity within PLO institutions. If national and pan-Arab interests necessitate the holding of a new PNC session then I think it would not be impossible to do that, but the main point is that the differences should be settled and solidarity and unity of ranks restored.

Question: A number of initiatives have now been proposed. What do you think of them?

Answer: The Israelis reject every peace initiative because they do not want a just peace. In fact they are afraid of peace. Ever since Israel's birth, they have been preparing themselves for war. Not once have they prepared themselves for peace. We challenge them to do that. If they really want peace then they must agree to an international conference. I know the truth. I lived with them for 14 years. They talk about peace in an attempt to deceive world public opinion in general and Israeli public opinion in particular. It is not strange that they reject Resolution 242 and any other peace plan. As far as we are concerned, we see the Palestinian cause as something with a Palestinian head and an Arab heart. Therefore, we abide by the Arab resolutions. The Arab nation has accepted the Fes summit resolutions and so have we. We adhere to these resolutions and proceed accordingly. We will not change our position unless there is a change in the general Arab approach to the question of settlement.

Question: The PNC resolutions spoke of the need to deepen and strengthen Palestinian-Egyptian relations. That stems from your awareness of the necessity and importance of the Egyptian role. How do you assess the Egyptian role?

Answer: The fact is that there can be no peace or war in the region without Egypt. It is no disgrace that we are turning to Egypt. We are turning to Egypt because we want it to regain leadership of the Arab struggle and to work with its Arab brothers for the fulfillment of Palestinian national rights. We have no specific program for that but this trend indicates that we are capable of substituting one bargaining method for another, if it leads to the achievement of the Palestinian people's objectives. The time has come for us to reconsider our policy in order to restore Egypt to what it was before Camp David.

AL-DUSTUR Interviews Halhul Mayor Milhim

JN111640 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 11 Dec 84 p 16

[Nabil 'Amr dispatch]

[Text] Muhammad Milhim, member of the PLO Executive Committee and deported mayor of Halhul, has said that the next meeting of the Executive Committee will, as previously announced, study King Husayn's speech to the PNC, restructure the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue committee, and envision the nature of joint action.

Milhim affirmed that convening the 17th PNC session in Amman is considered a new starting point for the organization — hence the importance of the post-PNC period. This came in a comprehensive interview with *AL-DUSTUR* in which Muhammad Milhim answered the questions put to him as follows:

['Amr] How do you view the distinguished Jordanian-Palestinian relationship in the current phase?

[Milhim] The formula for Jordanian-Palestinian relations is based on resolutions adopted at previous PNC sessions. The resolutions of the 17th PNC session recently held in Amman have consolidated this formula. I believe that this formula will be further consolidated in the future not by words, but by action — through clear coordination backed by all the masses of our Jordanian, Palestinian people both inside and outside the occupied homeland. There will be, there must be, a clear policy in order to achieve our Palestinian-Jordanian people's aspirations for just peace, and to affirm that this distinguished relationship is permanent and not temporary.

['Amr] The PLO has overcome the PNC obstacle. What was the significance of holding it in Amman, and what will follow the PNC session?

[Milhim] In my opinion, convening the PNC in Amman is considered a new starting point, or rather an infusion of new blood into the PLO, which was exposed to such severe shocks that our people kept clutching at their hearts for fear that this new hope around which they are gathering would disintegrate. It was a great challenge. Our people and their leadership proved that they deserve recognition and support on both the Arab and international levels. Hence the importance of the post-Amman period. We have regarded this session as a new step, new blood, and a rebirth. Therefore, it must have special significance, especially in terms of future developments.

['Amr] Let us go back to the first part of the previous question. What is the significance of holding the PNC in Amman?

[Milhim] It is undoubtedly common knowledge that Amman is the twin sister of Jerusalem, and that the bulk of our Palestinian people both in Jordan and in occupied Palestine who feared for the PLO's safety before the PNC session were anxiously watching the PNC meeting. A new factor arose — that is, the proximity of the meetings. It was held under the gaze and within the hearing of our people in the occupied territory, who watched all of the PNC proceedings with all of their hearts minute by minute. This is shown by the cables received from the occupied territory, and by the demonstrations, marches, and meetings here in support of the PNC. We will not forget our martyrs who sacrificed their lives in order to demonstrate their happiness and support for the Palestinian leadership's victory against the challenges imposed on it. Our martyrs were defying the Zionist enemy soldiers. The new facts created by the PNC session in Amman and the great success of the Palestinian leadership in protecting the independent decisionmaking of the Palestinian nation against trusteeship, containment, and tutelege have forced those who had cast doubt on the success of the session to revise their position. There is nothing shameful in revising one's position if one finds himself in the wrong.

['Amr] In your conversation there is clear reference to the differences in the Palestinian arena and to the Palestinian-Arab differences. How do you view them?

[Milhim] The factors I have mentioned give the new Executive Committee big responsibilities, the foremost of which is the need to complete the PNC's genuine trend toward achieving Palestinian unity and adhering to legitimacy, laws, and the previous PNC resolutions. We should notice the morals that the PNC discussions have reflected. The PNC has called on the Arab nation, particularly all the confrontation countries, to move toward the nucleus of Palestinian struggle represented by the PNC. This is important. This requires drawing up a formula of action in the Palestinian arena and taking into account the 17th PNC session's resolutions, which stressed the importance of strengthening the Palestinian institutions both inside and outside the occupied homeland. The Executive Committee's work should be carried out on sound foundations and according to the resolutions of our successive PNC sessions.

['Amr] If you are asked to hold a dialogue with the Syrian leadership, will you agree?

[Milhim] If the PLO Executive Committee and the organization's leadership ask me to assume a mission in the interest of our people or to unify the Palestinian or Arab ranks, I will spare no effort in this regard.

['Amr] Do you expect an imminent, positive development in Palestinian-Syrian relations?

[Milhim] Everybody supporting our Palestinian people's cause hopes that Palestinian-Arab relations will be on strong and sound foundations.

['Amr] What do you mean by sound relations?

[Milhim] I mean that Arab energies should serve the objectives of the Arab nation and our Palestinian people. This will not be achieved unless our independent Palestinian decisionmaking and the resolutions of our successive PNC sessions are respected.

['Amr] The difference in the Palestinian arena began under the slogan of reform. As you occupy a high position of responsibility in the organization, how do you view that slogan?

[Milhim] Any leadership of any people should adopt reforms and correct all mistakes hampering the march. Otherwise, this leadership cannot continue. I would like to distinguish between reform and destruction. Reform is something, and destruction is something else. To treat a patient is something, and to kill him is something else. We are for reform, and against killing and destruction.

['Amr] What do you mean by killing and destruction?

[Milhim] I would like to recall something said by a side that is hostile to our people. It said that the PLO cannot be destroyed by the wars that Israel launches, but by splitting it from within. Therefore, I do not want to confuse reform with splitting and destruction. All of us are for reform, and all of us are against the destruction and killing caused by splitting the PLO. I believe that convening the PNC session in Amman came as a guarantee to prevent a further irreparable split.

['Amr] And what if eight Palestinian organizations continue to exist outside the PLO framework?

[Milhim] We must recall that more than the necessary quorum attended the PNC session. Four of the organizations that did not attend were holding a dialogue with Fatah before and during the PNC session. This dialogue will continue. The 17th PNC session adhered to continuing this dialogue. This means that four Palestinian organizations will sooner or later join the Legitimate Palestinian march.

['Amr] But these organizations, which form the Democratic Alliance, have expressed dissatisfaction with the resolutions of the 17th PNC session.

[Milhim] The persistent dialogue will remove differences and restore the fabric of the Palestinian ranks. The Palestinian arena has witnessed worse differences, but our people's genuine character solved all of them. I am certain of this. I am encouraged by the moral behavior that permeated the PNC meetings. I hope that this positive spirit and these morals will be observed among all parties concerned as well as among the PLO Executive Committee members.

['Amr] Observers expect that a new U.S. initiative in the Middle East will appear soon, and that this initiative will take the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship into consideration. Have you anything to say in this regard?

[Milhim] I have read in the newspapers that there is an idea concerning an amended version of the Reagan plan; and that despite the lack of optimism among our Arab people, we are waiting to see if this really takes place. We will comment on this when it takes place.

['Amr] Jordan, the PLO, Syria, Egypt, the USSR, and some Europeans are talking about an international conference to solve the Middle East crisis. What exactly are the differences in views among the PLO, Jordan, and Syria toward this conference?

[Milhim] There is almost a consensus among these parties that this international conference is the right framework for finding a jsut solution. This is the declared postion of both Arab and non-Arab parties. There may be certain differences in views on the form of this conference, but all of them are unanimous on the following two points:

1. Having all parties concerned, including the PLO, present.

2. Considering the UN resolutions as the framework for this international conference.

Here we must point out that the United States and Israel are still not supporting this approach. Everybody knows that the policy of taking the Arab states one by one — a policy which began with Camp David — has not left the minds of the U.S. Administration and Israel.

['Amr] How do you evaluate Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' recent statements in Paris?

[Milhim] Regardless of what Peres says, and no matter how his statements are interpreted, I believe that we should not attach any greater importance to words than they deserve. This is because although the Israeli prime minister's statements outside the Middle East may seem to be attractive, interesting, and a change in Israel's attitude, Peres' political line in occupied Palestine leaves no hope for a just peace in the Middle East. On many occasions, several European leaders have expressed the same feeling after meeting with Peres and other Zionist entity leaders, who used to speak in a language that differed from their practices against our Palestinian people over the past 35 years. Many West European politicians have become aware of this point. They no longer swallow Peres' sugared words. During his election campaign, Peres spoke about Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon. Some people imagined that the Israeli Army was packing and about to leave. We know that the drive from Sidon to the borders of occupied Palestine is less than 1 hour. Had Peres intended to withdraw his forces from there, it would have taken him only a few hours or maybe a few days. However, it seems we are going to wait months and even years before the withdrawal is effected.

If this is the situation with regard to southern Lebanon, how can the situation in occupied Palestine be? What is going to happen in what the Israelis call Judaea, Samaria, and unified Jerusalem? Since the Europeans themselves are not deceived by these gimmicks, we certainly are not deceived. The PLO leadership and the Arab nation are not deceived either.

['Amr] Speaking of the European leaders, do you expect Europe to play a more effective role in the Middle East in the near future?

[Milhim] As you know, there has been a chill in the European position toward the Palestinian question. This chill was expressed recently by Brother Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department. However, the 17th PNC session and the wide-scale Palestinian, Arab, and international support for this session's resolutions will force the Europeans to change their position. It may be said that the recent French and Italian moves show that this chill is receding. In other words, the stronger the Palestinian position, the greater the European and international interest in our cause becomes. This interest is directly proportional to our strength, the firmness of our position, and our unity.

['Amr] What are your views on an effective Egyptian role?

[Milhim] The new circumstances, which were reflected in President Husni Mubarak's speech welcoming His Majesty King Husayn, have defined the Egyptian path. Expressing reservations toward this path no longer serves the Arab cause. The current Egyptian position makes it necessary for the Arabs to quickly move toward Egypt in order to enable it to assume its pioneering role, which will have a great effect in stirring the international situation and strengthening the Arab position.

['Amr] Do you expect increased activity in Egyptian- Palestinian relations?

[Milhim] Since we demand a closer approach toward Egypt, this applies not only to the Arab states but to the PLO as well. It applies to all Arab states without exception.

['Amr] You are very familiar with the situation in the occupied homeland. In your opinion, what are the requirements of steadfastness?

[Milhim] Bolstering our people's steadfastness in the occupied homeland depends on strengthening the Palestinian and Arab position outside this homeland. The means of bolstering this steadfastness are:

1. Working for Palestinian unity and Arab soldarity, which will inspire unity and soldarity among our people inside the occupied homeland.

2. Carefully studying our relations with the people in the occupied homeland with a view to preventing our internal differences from affecting them. We hope no differences will remain after the 17th PNC session.

3. Extending the necessary funds to our people in order to strengthen their institutions and to prevent shortcomings in the fields of health, education, and social services both in cities and villages. This should be carefully planned. Important matters should be dealt with first.

4. Continuing and developing the work of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee for supporting the steadfastness of our people in the occupied territory, and ensuring continuous Arab support for this committee.

['Amr] At the end of the interview, Milhim said that it should be noted that the 17th PNC session took into consideration Syria's role, and voiced the opinion that Syrian-Palestinian coordination occupies a very important position. He said that this coordination can be effected through group or individual mediation, from inside and outside the PLO. He added that the PLO will always be interested in preserving its Arab relations and will endeavor to establish Arab unity of ranks, because this is the only guarantee for realizing the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Baghdad Voice of PLO on Rejection of 242

JN112155 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1635 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Not only is there a wide gap between Resolution 242 and the idea of an international conference, there is also a strong contradiction on all levels concerning the issue to be solved. Perhaps it is important to point out that the period in which Resolution 242 was issued was very different, especially on the Palestinian level, from the period in which the idea of the international conference was raised — an idea which enjoys worldwide support and is approved by the PLO.

It is obvious that this matter — namely, the different circumstances of the two periods — has political meaning. This makes Resolution 242 illogical and impractical as a framework or basis for a solution, and therefore undesirable. This is not just because Resolution 242 considers the Palestine question as one of refugees and not a question of a people who must enjoy all the rights stipulated in international laws and norms, but also because this resolution is not in harmony with the changes that have affected the conflict since 1967.

The changes that have taken place are basic and not marginal, so they cannot be ignored. Foremost is the emergence of Palestinian action in a national liberation movement. This strong and effective action is manifested not only in its developed form of struggle, but also in a clear, specific political entity and in an institution which has acquired legitimacy through the Palestinian masses' support for it. This institution enjoys wide Arab and international support as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, who gave the PLO and its leadership their full confidence and proceeded to fight for their legitimate inalienable national rights under its banner. Foremost of these is their right to return; to self-determination, which is a sacred right for all peoples; and to establish an independent Palestinian state.

In short, the Palestinian factor, which was absent in the 60's and was ignored in Resolution 242, cannot be ignored now that it has forcibly established its existence in the conflict arena and has regained its national identity after many years of bitter struggle during which our people offered thousands of martyrs. Thus, the PLO's rejection of Resolution 242 is logical, objective, and responsible. It reflects the organization's desire and perseverence to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Arab region on the basis of a just settlement of the Palestine question, guaranteeing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The organization rejects not only Resolution 242, but any amendment of it. This is because, as brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] said, the organisation wants a new resolution that provides for our people's right to self-determination. In other words, our people are demanding a resolution from the international community that takes into consideration the basic and substantive changes that have taken place in the conflict. Our people want the international community to assume its humanitarian responsibilities by achieving justice and peace in our region on the basis of our people's legitimate, inalienable rights.

The events that have taken place in our region in all these years since the emergence of the Palestinian factor have proven that overlooking the Palestinian factor will only lead to further disturbances, instability, and lack of peace and security. The situation in the region will continue this way as long as the Palestine question remains without a just solution. Resolution 242 provides an unjust solution to the Palestine question. Therefore, it must not be considered, especially by the Palestinians. This is the substance of the PLO's rejection of Resolution 242 and its approval of the international conference.

The international conference will seek a real, just peace in the region on the basis of the Palestinian people's just rights and with all parties concerned including the PLO, participating on an equal basis. The international conference will take into consideration the basic and substantive changes that have taken place in the region's conflict.

Resistance Operations Continue in S. Lebanon

JN111835 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese national resistance men continue to escalate their operations against the Zionist occupation forces in southern Lebanon. A group of resistance men set off highly explosive charges just as a Zionist military patrol was passing near Al-Qasimiyah in southern Lebanon. The explosion destroyed an armored car, and killed or wounded several enemy soldiers. Resistance men also attacked an enemy position near Al-Zahrani with Katyushas. The position was seriously damaged, and a large number of enemy soldiers were either killed or wounded.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the two incidents. But, as usual, he did not disclose his losses. He said that his forces surrounded the scenes of the two operations, launched large-scale search operations, and detained several citizens for interrogation.

The Palestinian and Lebanese national resistance men also attacked a Zionist military patrol while it was passing on the highway near Kafr Kalla in the Marj 'Uyun district of southern Lebanon. Several enemy soldiers were killed or wounded in this attack, which was carried out with rockets and automatic weapons.

OMAN

SFRY Official Arrives on Official Visit

LD111238 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1129 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Muscat, December 11 (TANJUG) — Yugoslav Federal Foreign Secretary Raif Dizdarevic arrived on an official visit to Oman today, Tuesday. It is expected that Dizdarevic will hold talks with Oman State Minister for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi on bilateral relations and questions of joint interest.

Meets With Sultan

LD112119 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1932 GMT 11 Dec 84

["Pool" item]

[Text] Muscat, December 11 (TANJUG) — The promotion of bilateral, especially economic, cooperation, activity of the Nonaligned Movement, the Iran-Iraq war, activities of the Gulf countries' council for cooperation and other current questions of international relations were discussed here today by Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Raif Dizdarevic and Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman.

Dizdarevic, who arrived at Muscat this morning on an official visit to Oman, also conferred with the country's minister of state for foreign affairs, Yusuf al-Alawi 'Abdallah. Both sides noted that Yugoslav-Omani cooperation was at an initial stage and expressed the conviction that Dizdarevic's visit will contribute to its expansion, in which both countries are interested.

Press Conference Held

GF111700 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Excerpt] An official session of talks was held in Al-Ghabrah guesthouse today between Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Raif Dizdarevic, SFRY foreign affairs federal secretary, who is visiting the country.

After the session, the Omani and SFRY sides held a press conference in which they answered reporters' questions.

In answer to a question on the Iran-Iraq war and SFRY's stand on it, the SFRY foreign affairs federal secretary said that the SFRY's stand is known, and that this war between two nonaligned countries is bad. It is a permanent danger with possible escalation and expansion.

In answer to another question on the Iran-Iraq war and the Nonaligned Movement's stand on it, the SFRY foreign affairs federal secretary said that the Iran-Iraq war is a large issue within the movement, but the Nonaligned Movement is not responsible for the start of the war. He added that the Nonaligned Movement is making great efforts to end this war but all of them have been fruitless. There are, however, recent initiatives by the UN secretary general, and we have to use every possible opportunity to find peaceful solutions, he said.

In answer to a question on the Nonaligned Movement's stand toward countries which are the victims of foreign intervention, the SFRY foreign affairs federal secretary said: The Nonaligned Movement was established on the principle that it is the legitimate right of every people in the world to live freely, enjoy full independence and make independent decisions, in the full sense of the word, and to choose their own methods of development and progress as they see fit. He added that the Nonaligned Movement has always been against intervention in Afghanistan, Kampuchea, and other countries, and that it is the legitimate right of all these peoples to self-determination as they see fit, without foreign intervention in their affairs. He cited the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination as an example.

Minister on Armed Forces, GCC Task Force

GF111442 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1210 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Excerpts] Muscat, 11 Dec (WAKH) — In an interview with the newspaper *'UMAN* published here today, Omani Deputy Prime Minister for Security and Defense Affairs Fahar ibn Taymur said that Oman's participation with the GCC countries in the Peninsula Shield-II military exercises which took place in Saudi Arabia recently is a step toward the formation of a GCC rapid deployment force, whose size will correspond to the mission which will be assigned to it within the framework of more comprehensive cooperation and a more powerful and useful effectiveness.

Fahar ibn Taymur pointed out that Oman's Armed Forces are continuously becoming more developed and efficient in composition, equipment, supply, personnel, diversification of arms, and combat. He referred to the insight and directions of Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, which he said have had a positive role in the achievements of the Armed Forces.

Fahar ibn Taymur said that the Defense Ministry had signed several cooperation agreements with friendly countries to train a number of Omani commanders in their advanced military institutions.

Briefs

Outgoing Sudanese Envoy — His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id has received 'Ali 'Abd al-Rahman Numayri, Sudanese ambassador to Oman, at the end of his term of office. [Summary] [*Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Dec 84 GF*]

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Receives Mexican Energy Minister

GF112002 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received in his office at the royal court today Francisco Labastida Ochoa, Mexican minister of energy, mines, and parastatal industry.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs; Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs; Muhammad Shararah, Saudi ambassador to Mexico; and Francisco Gonzalez, Mexican ambassador to the Kingdom.

The Mexican minister presented a souvenir to His Majesty King Fahd.

Paper Criticizes North Sea Oil Production

GF120600 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 12 Dec 84

[From the Press Review program]

[Text] The newspaper *AL-NADWAH* says that it has become obvious that the parties which tried several months ago to hit the oil market are the same parties which are trying once again today to reach the same monopolistic goals using North Sea oil. The paper says it is strange that these countries and parties are trying to extort the developing countries to the last drop of their blood while continuing to hold them responsible for the deteriorating economic situation in the world.

UAE

President Receives Message From King Husayn

GF120731 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0628 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 Dec (WAKH) — Mr Marwan al-Qasim, head of the Jordanian Royal Court, left Abu Dhabi for Doha this morning following a 1-day visit to the UAE as part of his tour of a number of the region's states. During his visit the head of the Jordanian Royal Court delivered a message to Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, UAE president, from King Husayn of Jordan on bilateral relations, the current Arab developments, and events in the Arab arena.

Gabon Islamic Affairs Official Arrives

GF111028 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0735 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 11 Dec (WAKH) — (Mohamed Mwaba), the political adviser at the Gabonese Presidency for Islamic Affairs and envoy of the Gabonese president, arrived in the UAE today on a visit lasting several days. The Gabonese envoy carries a message from Gabonese President El Hadj Omar Bongo to UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan on bilateral relations and issues of common interest. During the visit, the Gabonese official will hold talks with UAE officials on matters pertaining to cementing Islamic cooperation and to Islamic issues of common interest.

Zayid Orders Settlement of Government Debts

GF071200 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 6 Dec 84 p 1

[Text] *AL-KHALIJ* has learned that His Highness President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan has ordered all federal government financial commitments, including overdue bills, to companies and individual citizens to be settled. The funds pertaining to these debts have been transferred to the Ministry of Finance so that it can begin to pay them at the beginning of next week. The Supreme Council decided in its meeting under the president on 10 June to dispense 2 billion dirhams to settle all the debts of the federal government.

AL-KHALIJ has learned that the Ministry of Finance has asked all the state ministries to supply it with complete statements of the claims of individuals and companies in light of their present position, and also the costs of projects under construction. Informed sources expect the president's decision to result in economic recovery and relief for company owners who carried out government projects and who at earlier dates exported goods and have claims against the state.

Editorial on Results of Arab Central Bank Session

GF111132 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 11 Dec 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Arab Economy"]

[Text] The just concluded ninth session of the Arab Central Bank governors and heads of monetary authorities has been useful in that it has highlighted the economic problems facing the Arab world. Against the backdrop of a weak oil market, the governors have warned that the way ahead is not smooth. In fact the meeting appeared to feel that the situation would worsen if proper corrective steps were not taken. The unified economic report presented at the meeting does not see many bright patches in the diverse Arab economy, except in the industrial field. It notes that the gross national product of the Arab world has dropped and borrowings are on the rise. The situation is due partly to the fact that some oil-exporting countries can no longer boast large surpluses and partly to the general world recession. Imports have risen in every field, draining foreign exchange to non-Arab countries. With the oil cushion gone, the situation throws up grave challenges for many countries in the Arab world who have been beneficiaries of OPEC loans.

The problems are surmountable given greater Arab economic unity. Intra-Arab trade should increase in volume and governments should remove obstructions to large-scale trading. The Arab countries are facing hostile trade legislations like the punitive duties on petrochemicals. In the circumstances, the Arab Monetary Fund has a significant role to play. The fund recently introduced a system to support balance of trade deficits in intra-Arab trade, although the shortage of funds plaguing the organisation constitutes a hurdle. Another step it has been contemplating is the wider use of the Arab accounting dinar (AAD) as a currency of trade. In Abu Dhabi, Central Bank governors and Arab monetary authority heads have committed themselves to making wholehearted efforts to make AADs a viable unit of exchange and have called for further studies on the subject. This is welcome: The earlier the Arab countries can switch over to their own system for payments, the better in a world of violent exchange-rate fluctuations. The different levels of growth and economic philosophies might have been the delaying factors, and such differences have to be overcome at the earliest.

An important step, although some countries have reservations on its viability, is the meeting's proposal for a communications network linking Arab monetary authorities. Faster communication in the electronic era is required for an effective movement of funds. No effort should be spared to develop the network considering the fact that major currencies are traded round the clock.

Overall, while the picture that emerged at Abu Dhabi might not be very rosy, we should not forget that substantial ground has been covered in the recent past. Half-a-dozen forums related to trade, economy and finance have been set up and their impact will be felt in the coming years in achieving self-reliance by the 22-country bloc.

Heir Apparent Opens New Oil Field

GF111033 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] His Highness Shaykh Maktum ibn Rashid, deputy prime minister and the heir apparent of Dubai, today opened the Margham oil field which lies on the road linking Dubayy and Hatta. His Highness Shaykh Maktum unveiled the memorial painting of the field. He then cut the riboon and pressed the button beginning the start of work and production at the Margham onshore oil field.

Among those present were Hamdan ibn Rashid, finance and industry minister; Muhammad ibn Rashid, defense minister; and a number of their highnesses and shaykhs, ministers, senior state officials, members of the diplomatic corps, and representatives of petroleum companies.

YAR

Constituent Council Discusses Financial Report

GF110922 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Summary] The People's Constituent Council met yesterday under 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president and chairman of the council and member of the Standing Committee. They heard the financial report presented by the government which includes the YAR financial policy for the fiscal year 1985.

The financial report dealt with the general budget in which general revenues for 1985 were estimated at 6,222.2 million riyals compared to 5,455.7 million riyals for 1984, an increase of 772.5 million riyals, or 14.2 percent. General spending for 1985 was estimated at 8,895.4 million riyals compared to 8,123.8 million riyals for 1984, an increase of 771.6 million riyals, or 9.5 percent. The allocation for capital spending for 1985 — which includes spending on the investment plan, and allocations to pay foreign loans — was estimated at 2,989.5 million riyals compared to 2,920.4 million riyals, an increase of 61.2 million riyals or 2.1 percent. Allocations for investment spending were estimated at 978.2 million riyals compared to 1,875.9 million riyals for 1984, an increase of 103.7 million riyals or 5.5 percent [figures as heard]. This also includes 350.5 million riyals for developing and backing the administrative bodies and 1,125.7 million riyals for the completion of the expansion of development projects and to start new projects.

The statement added that the estimates for the general revenue and the spending of the draft balance for 1985 will mark a surplus of 156.6 million riyals compared to 94.6 million riyals for 1984, an increase of 62 million riyals or 65.5 percent.

Reportage on Visit of Malaysian Prime Minister

Mahathir Arrives in Cairo

NC111823 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1745 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 11 Dec (MENA) — Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Bin Mohamed arrived in Cairo this evening on a 5-day visit at the invitation of Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

'Ali, Mahatir Exchange Speeches

NC112224 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali tonight gave a dinner banquet in honor of Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Bin Mohamed and his escorting delegation. 'Ali made a speech praising the close ties between Egypt and Malaysia and expressing hope that bilateral relations will constantly be enhanced in all domains.

'Ali pointed to Egypt's efforts for reaching a just and overall settlement to the Middle East problem. Such a settlement, he said, should involve a recognition of the Palestinians' right to self-determination and to an independent state on their soil. The PLO, he added, should take part in all the peace talks by virtue of its being the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The Iraq-Iran war is one of the straining factors in the Middle East, 'Ali said, with its devastating repercussions in the region and worldwide. Egypt, he said, is repeating its call on the Islamic world and the international community to intercede and try to end this war.

The Malaysian prime minister, on his part, made a speech praising Egypt's leading role in the international community and its development efforts. He called for closer cooperation between Malaysia and Egypt within the framework of South-South cooperation. He also spoke about the role played by Egypt and Malaysia, both nonaligned countries, in reducing world tension.

Foreign Minister Receives Israeli Ambassador

NC111420 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Cairo, 11 Dec (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid today received Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sason at the latter's request. During the meeting, both sides reviewed issues concerning bilateral relations.

Chad's Habre Sends Message to Mubarak

NC111312 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Chadian President Hissein Habre today sent a message to President Husni Mubarak regarding the serious situation in Chad and the continued Libyan occupation of half the country. Habre handed the message to Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, who is currently heading the Egyptian delegation to the African-French summit, which began in Burundi today. Ghali stressed Egypt's support for Chad's independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity. He also affirmed the Egyptian Government and people's solidarity with the Chadian Government and people.

Al-Majid Confers With UK Ambassador

NC111910 Cairo MENA in English 1820 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, Dec 11 (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid conferred today with British Ambassador Sir Michael Weir on the European role in stepping up the Middle East peace process, in the light of the recent Dublin declaration. Dr 'Abd al-Majid said Egypt was looking forward to an effective European role to utilize all chances available for achieving a Middle East peace settlement.

Transfer of Former AID Director in Egypt Viewed

GF071306 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 5 Dec 84 p 13

[From the *NILE VALLEY* weekly supplement]

[Text] The transfer of Michael Stone, former director of the U.S. AID [in Cairo] prior to the conclusion of his 4-year tour of duty, has given rise to much speculation among economic and political circles. U.S. sources said that one of the reasons for Stone's transfer after completing only 2 and 1/2 years of his tour, is Egyptian comment on the rise in AID's expenses, which some people estimated at 25 percent of total U.S. aid to Egypt.

It was also noted that Stone was almost forming a shadow cabinet in Egypt, dividing AID into departments paralleling the Egyptian Government, and those departments had infiltrated into all the public services. Moreover, Stone's style of administration created severe problems between him and his employees which resulted in a total break.

President Mubarak Addresses NDP Officials

NC111853 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Ladies and gentlemen, here is a statement made by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif following President Mubarak's meeting with the NDP General Secretariat and with local NDP leaders from the Governorates of Al-Minya, Asyut, and Kafr al-Shaykh:

[Begin Al-Sharif recording] The NDP General Secretariat held its first meeting under President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today. The president said that the NDP is full of capable leaders eager to serve their party and country, and that the NDP General Secretariat represents merely a portion of those leaders.

Now that the NDP General Secretariat and special committees have been formed, the president said, a broad and active movement is certain to begin. The president pointed out that the special committees will be led by secretaries whose assignments

will be determined geographically, and who will undertake to train new cadres and to discuss issues of party and public concern.

The president commented on the political performance within the NDP. The NDP cadres, he said, should abide by our party's political framework — a framework that represents the aspirations of the Egyptian people and that respects their traditions, values, and highest interests.

Democracy, the president said, is the way to great achievements and a better future. The NDP is dedicated to openness and honesty. We do not hide any deviation. We must set an example for future generations by our actions everywhere. Dialogue is necessary for democracy, being one of its major components, Mubarak said. Still, dialogue is not an end in itself. We must correct our course; this is our goal, and this is what we should work hard to achieve, he said. We are living in difficult times, because we are trying to develop our society politically, economically, and socially.

The president said that we should also be clear about what we want and should tell the people the truth, with no attempt at concealment. People, he said, appreciate those who tell the truth and who work honestly.

In his meeting with the NDP Secretariat, President Mubarak pointed out that the selection of the NDP leaders at all levels should be based on their efforts, dedication, behavior, and high ethical standards.

Later, the NDP General Secretariat joined a meeting between President Mubarak and the NDP leaders from the Kafr al-Shaykh, Al-Minya, and Asyut Governorates. The meeting was also attended by members of the Consultative Council, chairmen of municipal boards, NDP governorate secretaries, governors, and some ministers.

The president said that the NDP has begun a new phase with the creation of the Political Bureau and the General Secretariat, and with the selection of the leaders of the special committees. The majority party, the president pointed out, is full of ability. Every NDP member, regardless of the level at which he is serving, is doing a useful job. The roles of the leaders and of ordinary members are equally necessary. [end recording]

AL-AHRAM AL-IQTISADI Article on U.S. Relations

PM111659 Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-IQTISADI in Arabic 3 Dec 84 pp 48,49

[Hibah 'Abduh article: "The U.S. View of Strategic Relations With Egypt"]

[Text] The cultural season at Cairo University's economics and political science faculty began with a lecture on Egyptian-U.S. relations by Dr 'Abd al-Mun'im al-Mashshat of the Political Science Department.

The lecture basically centered on the U.S. view of Egyptian-U.S. strategic relations at the political coordination level and military relations between the two countries (arms supplies, training, joint maneuvers, and military facilities). It is important in this regard to point out that the material compiled by the researcher is drawn from two principal sources — personal interviews with some officials of the Foreign Ministry's research centers, and pressure groups in the United States. This is in addition to analysis of Congressional documents for the period 1974-1984 — the period on which the research concentrates.

The research is concerned with answering two principal questions:

1. Is it possible in our contemporary world for reciprocal (just and equitable) relations to be established between a superpower and a small power?
2. Is it possible to free Egyptian-U.S. relations from the Israeli dimension?

Before delving into the subject of the research, which aims at drawing up a mental map of the policymakers and of those influencing U.S. policymaking toward Egypt, it is worth pausing at some of the points which the researcher raised as personal observations:

1. There is a great desire and awareness on the U.S. side to deal with this matter in particular.

2. There is an apparent difference among the attitudes of the U.S. policymaking institutions, particularly toward Egypt. While the State Department is strongly optimistic with regard to all the problems in the region, the Defense Department is characterized by its "realistic" view, and Congress is divided between supporting and criticizing the U.S. Middle East role.

3. The growing role which the U.S. Defense Department is playing in decisionmaking with regard to the Middle East.

Here the researcher paused to say two important things:

—The Defense Department has shown great understanding of Arab issues, including the question of Palestinian rights (though the researcher does not define this understanding).

—Despite this fact, the decisionmakers in the Arab countries still basically concentrate on the State Department.

4. The last point is that the Arab policymakers and decisionmaking institutions in the Arab homeland continue to contact the U.S. decisionmakers while ignoring those who influence the decisionmaking.

For example, the Egyptian authorities have no knowledge of the person who prepares the final reports on Egyptian economic demands. What is more, these authorities (like the other Arab authorities) are not interested in contacting or knowing about the U.S. Congressional Research Office which distributes reports to congressmen about matters which Congress is to discuss before the members vote on them.

The researcher put forward four questions, the answers to which would contribute to defining the U.S. view of Egyptian-U.S. relations over the past 10 years. These questions are:

1. U.S. objectives in the Middle East, and in Egypt in particular.
2. U.S. expectations of the Egyptian attitude to these objectives.
3. Military relations between the two sides.
4. The influence of Israeli-Egyptian relations on U.S.-Egyptian relations.

The researcher then listed the justifications for U.S.-Egyptian strategic relations — from the U.S. viewpoint, of course.

On the political plane there is a U.S. interest in the extent of Egyptian moderation — the factor that reflects the degree of closeness or weakness of those relations or their suspension. There is a view that Egypt must support the U.S. peace initiative. There is a view concerning the role of the mediator who should encourage the rest of the Arab countries to join the peace process — a role which, in the U.S. view, should be played by Egypt.

From the military viewpoint the downfall of the shah of Iran was one of the greatest justifications. Equally important were the question of the American hostages held by Iranian students, the Iraq-Iran war, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and the Ethiopian-Libyan activities in Sudan. This U.S. inclination toward Egypt was strengthened by the military break between Egypt and the Soviet Union after the 1973 war.

What is the United States aiming at in the Middle East?
1. To deny the Soviet Union any role in the area;
2. To obtain oil supplies;
3. To expedite support for moderate regimes and governments; and
4. To bolster Israeli security.

The researcher said that there is agreement between Egypt and the United States on the first three objectives. The fourth is a point of disagreement between the two administrations for the first time in their history, particularly since U.S.-Israeli relations have been formulated in writing. There is also the question of military aid to Israel, increased during the 1981-1984 period to an unprecedented level. Aid during the period in question reached $9.5 billion. This period also witnessed the signing of the agreement to establish a free zone in Israel. Former U.S. Middle East envoy McFarlane told a Zionist organization in Los Angeles that there has been a jump in U.S. military aid to Israel, since it totaled $9.5 billion during the period in question, compared with $27.5 billion between 1948 and 1980.

After discussing U.S. justifications and objectives, the researcher said that the Americans he met (who, as has already been pointed out, take part in decisionmaking) expect the following from egypt:

1. That Egypt remain committed to peace with Israel;
2. That Egypt play the role of mediator trying to induce other Arab parties to join the peace process;
3. That Egypt play the role of the country that maintains stability in the area;
4. That Egypt remain internally stable;
5. That Egypt remain important in maintaining military balance in the Middle East.

Questions brought up by the Americans

It remains to point out here what the Americans said about problems in Egyptian-U.S. relations from their viewpoint. The Americans say that:

Egypt is displeased with the manner in which it receives economic aid. Aid is received in the form of goods, whereas Israel receives it in cash. This is in addition to the fact that the latter aid is an outright grant.

Egypt is also displeased with the problems the United States is creating over the question of aid, as well as with other internal problems, as a result of which the United States decided to reduce its aid from $240 million in 1983 to $225 million this year.

On the military level the Americans see that the Egyptian side is "unhappy" with the delivery of old types of weapons that are difficult to maintain. The Egyptian side is also finding difficulty in obtaining the hard currency needed to pay the interest on the loans granted for these weapons and for military aid.

Dr al-Mashshat's lecture aroused great controversy among the political science professors and students regarding a number of points he raised (from a U.S. viewpoint). The debate is expected to center on Egyptian-U.S. relations.

Deputy Prime Minister on Relations With U.S., USSR

PM111557 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 8-14 Dec 84 p 27

[Interview with Taha Yasin Ramadan, deputy prime minister and Popular Army commander, by Nura Fakhuri — date, place not given]

[Text] Question: One of President Reagan's election campaign issues concerned efforts to end the Gulf War. In the light of the current international and Arab moves in the region, [Foreign Minister] Tariq 'Aziz' U.S. visit, and the restoration of U.S.-Iraqi diplomatic relations, would you say that there is a new U.S. plan to establish some kind of peace in the region?

Answer: The visit of Tariq 'Aziz was agreed upon some time ago. There was a special program for that visit. It dealt with bilateral relations and many other things, including the war, but that program did not include discussion of a peace plan for the region.

Question: Since the beginning of the war, Iraqi-Soviet and U.S.-Iraqi relations have been going through periods of ebb and flow. How would you describe Iraqi-Soviet relations at present, particularly since some people call you the expert on the Iraqi-Soviet experiment?

Answer: The history of Iraqi-Soviet relations is well known. We know very well that these relations were somewhat stagnant for a while before the war, especially in 1978 and 1979. During the first 6 months of the war, the Soviet attitude was unfriendly in relation to both the agreements and the Soviet commitment to them and foreign policy. There were reasons and justifications. We know that. In its relations with other states, Iraq realizes that there is no such thing as relations of principle. There are relations of interest. So whenever we see that our interests can be served, we make an effort in that direction.

In March 1981 I was the first Iraqi official to visit the Soviet Union after the outbreak of the war. That marked the beginning of understanding and the implementation of existing but unimplemented agreements. My second visit was in 1982, when I was accompanied by Tariq 'Aziz. The visit which took place early this year raised the relations to a special level. The Soviet foreign minister later paid several visits. There is, of course, a clear change in the Soviet Union's understanding of the nature of the Iranian regime and its intentions, and also of Iraqi intentions. The numerous political changes which occurred in the region and in Iran confirmed to the Soviet side that Iraq is sincere in its relations but independent in its decisions. Iraq befriends all those who seek its friendship, but rejects alignment with or subservience to any state, great or small. Iraqi-Soviet relations are now good, if not excellent. They are proceeding cordially and both sides are satisfied, with the development of these relations. I do not exaggerate when I say that they are much better than they were before the war.

As regards the United States, our relations were severed in 1967 because of the U.S. attitude to Zionist aggression and on the basis of a unanimous Arab stand which prevailed at the time. Most Arab states restored relations with the United States, but Iraq maintained its position. It is very clear that, with the development of the Palestinian question and the much-changed Arab attitude to the Palestinian question, the restoration of relations with the United States became the natural thing to do, but we did not want to take the resumption decision from a position which could be misinterpreted, even by the United States itself, as a position of need and dependence.

We did not want the good Arabs to think that these relations were an alternative to relations with the Soviet Union, because that was not our intention.

We decided that, when Iraq was in a very strong economic, military, and political position, its attitude would not be misunderstood by the United States.

Question: The U.S. attitude to the Zionist entity has not changed since 1967. In fact it is now more supportive. There must be a justification or a direct reason for the restoration of relations severed 17 years ago, against the background of a war which has entered its 5th year.

Answer: We would have restored relations sooner if the war had not broken out. It was the war which delayed the restoration of relations. We did not want to be misunderstood. We did not want the restoration of relations to be misinterpreted. Some people, for example, have claimed that the war was started by Iraq at the behest of the United States.

Question: That was said....

Answer: The war delayed the restoration of relations with the United States, but it was not the reason for the restoration of these relations.

Official Confers With Soviet AAPSO Secretary

JN120823 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin, chairman of the Union of Iraqi Societies of Friendship With Peoples, met with Samandar Kalandarov, secretary of the Soviet AAPSO, this evening. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war and the situation in the region and in the Palestinian arena.

'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin reviewed Iraq's positive attitudes toward international and regional efforts to end the war that was imposed by the Iranian regime which insists on continuing it. He pointed out the Tehran rulers' ugly crimes against defenseless Iraqi prisoners of war — crimes that contravene international charters and norms.

Kalandarov said that the Soviet AAPSO is following with extreme concern the ongoing war between Iraq and Iran and its effects on world peace and security.

He added that this war will be at the top of the important regional and international topics to be discussed by the Soviet AAPSO at future international conferences.

Air Force Attacks Iranians in Maysan Sector

JN111745 Baghdad Doemstic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Communique No 1,677 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 11 December 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With their effective action and high morale, the brave sons of Iraq are affirming their ability and readiness to confront the Iranian enemy at any time and on every battlefield. They affirm to this misguided clique, whose brains are decaying because of rancor, that the bright truth is burning like a torch in the hands and minds of the Iraqis because they defend their rights and soil as well as the dignity of their people. They are lying in wait for those who try to extinguish our glorious history. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Our Air Force fighter planes are proudly crowning the victories of our land forces with further destructive strikes against the enemy's defeated forces in order to crush its military machine and prevent it from attacking Iraq. Our planes carried out successful, daring raids against enemy positions, troop concentrations, and vehicles in the Maysan sector. Our forces carried out 73 combat missions in which they inflicted heavy losses in men, equipment, and supplies. They returned with their planes safely and triumphantly. Elsewhere in the same sector, our helicopters carried out a daring attack on enemy positions and a group of its personnel, inflicting losses in men and supplies. They also destroyed one medium machine gun before returning safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Our brave artillery men dealt violent, effctive blows to enemy positions and a group of enemy personnel, vehicles, and engineering equipment east of Basra. They inflicted losses in men and equipment, destroying one infantry postion and one observation post, damaged one vehicle, and created big fires at enemy positions. The enemy was seen evacuating is casualties.

3. One infantry position and one observation post were destroyed in the central sector. Those manning the post were killed.

4. The spiteful enemy shelled a number of civilian areas near Basra this morning with heavy artillery. Two houses were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 December 1984

King Husayn Confers With Thatcher in London

For an Amman radio report on the meeting between King Husayn and UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in London on 10 December, during which the Jordanian Mideast peace proposal was discussed, see the United Kingdom section of the 12 December Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*.

'Source' Denies Husayn Statement to HA'ARETZ

PM120929 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 8 Dec 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Jordanian Official Source Tells *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*: King Husayn Made No Statement to *HA'ARETZ* and He Will Not Meet With Peres or Yitzhaq Rabin"]

[Text] London — The Jordanian Embassy in London yesterday denied that King Husayn of Jordan had made press statements to the London correspondent of *HA'ARETZ*.

Refuting agency reports that the Jordanian monarch had made a statement to the *HA'ARETZ* correspondent, an official source at the embassy said that the king was speaking at the British Royal Institute for Defense Studies, where he answered questions addressed to him. No representative of the aforementioned Israeli paper was present.

The source added: "It seems that the Israeli correspondent copied the king's statements from the sources which published them and then claimed that they were made exclusively to him."

The Jordanian source also denied agency reports that the Jordanian monarch will meet with Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres or Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, who is currently in London.

The source told *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* that "there is no truth whatever in these speculations. It is not strange that foreign news agencies have chosen this particular time to publish such reports."

He added: "Foreign news agencies are in the habit of making such speculations about meetings between King Husayn and Israeli officials whenever King Husayn is abroad or on an official or private visit to a Western state."

He emphasized that Jordan has clearly and frankly declared its position, which has been spelled out by King Husayn himself in more than one statement to foreign and Arab papers and in more than one speech at a gathering or a seminar.

The latest was his statement at the seminar held at the British Royal Institute for Defense Studies, in which he emphasized the principle of full peace in return for complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, and called for an international conference to be attended by the superpowers and all the parties concerned with the Middle East crisis, emphasizing that these are not preconditions for negotiations.

Prince Hasan Telephones Kuwait Amir on Hijacking

JN111847 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, telephoned His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah this evening. His highness the crown prince conveyed to him the greetings and congratulations of His Majesty King Husayn and of Jordan on the occasion of ending the crisis of the Kuwaiti airliner and on the safety of its passengers following the long suffering and exhaustion to which they were exposed. His highness, the regent, also praised Kuwait's brave position that foiled the terrorists' plan and blackmail.

Shultz' Statements on Terrorism Examined

JN120909 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 12 Dec 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Terrorism and Aggression," *AL-RA'Y* says: The U.S. secretary of state has stressed that U.S. preventive measures against terrorists would gain wide support from the West. He added that the objective of any U.S. military action is to foil acts of terrorism and not to take revenge on their perpetrators. Such statements should not pass without comment or be met by silence that would imply agreement in advance by everyone with regard to any possible U.S. military aggression or invasion. Our condemnation of terrorism does not contradict our denunciation of aggression and invasion regardless of their reasons and objectives. Our denunciation of terrorism is not confined to terrorist groups that perpetrate their crimes here and there, but also includes organized terrorism that is professionally adopted by the forces of aggression, invasion, and expansion in any part of this world.

AL-RA'Y adds: Regrettably, Shultz' statements confirm that terrorists have succeeded in dragging the United States into the same arena and into using the same weapons with which they carry out their operations. What is most serious is that they have succeeded in urging the United States to use the same methods. Thinking of military action to confront terrorism does not prove far-sightedness or awareness of the issue, but is a way of thinking that confirms to us that a terrorism that is resisted by aggression and invasion will not lead to security but to confusion, will not lead to stability but to further destruction and death, and will never lead to besieging terrorism but to the expansion of it.

The paper continues: Shultz has pointed out that the West will support any U.S. military action against terrorism. This clearly means that the East is the source of terrorism and that it supports it. Such irresponsible statements need not be refuted because the Zionist entity is mainly responsible for organized terrorism in our region. Its history is full of scores of massacres and atrocities, and it has shelled cities, villages, and camps with bombs and missiles throughout its bloody existence.

Concluding, *AL-RA'Y* says: Still, we have to affirm that resisting terrorism cannot be achieved through military force and muscle flexing, but through looking for reasons and through serious and

responsible belief in the importance of peace, security, justice, and stability in this region. When many international sides relinquish their moral, human, and international responsibility, then it is natural that the arena and its environs will continue to be a proper field for terrorism and murder, and will provide a suitable atmosphere for assassination, explosions, and kidnapping.

'Ministerial Source' on Military Talks With Israel

NC120747 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] A ministerial source described the situation in the region as unclear. The source said that the Arab summit, due to convene last month, was the first victim of regional developments.

The ministerial source affirmed that Lebanon is committed to the military talks with Israel in Al-Naqurah. Lebanon is committed to the redlines it has proposed, but Israel is attempting to breach these redlines because Lebanon cannot give any more concessions and Israel cannot prolong the talks.

The source deduced from this situation, the possibility of a sudden partial Israeli withdrawal from the south. This step, should it occur, means the death of the talks, and will create security disturbances in the south. The source expressed the fear of such a partial withdrawal, outlining that the regime and the government will not be surprised if the Al-Naqurah talks reach a deadlock as long as Israel maintains its practices and positions which are incompatible with the Lebanese and international hope to achieve the desired result from these talks. The source believes that the regional developments are part of attempts to change the political map of the region and that the situation in Lebanon falls within this framework.

Walid Junblatt Interviewed on Security, Other Issues

AL-MAJALLAH Interview

PM111309 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 8-14 Dec 84 pp 16-17

[Interview with Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] leader Walid Junblatt by Zaki Shihab in Beirut — date not given]

[Excerpts] Shihab: You have described your recent meeting with President al-Jumayyil in the presence of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam as a "session of remonstration, reconciliation, and frankness." Was it really so?
Junblatt: Yes, of course, we were frank with each other in the presence of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam on various security, military, and political issues. It was agreed that a schedule would be prepared for the settlement of these pending issues to restore confidence in the so-called government of national unity because, as I have already said quite frankly, confidence is completely lacking.

Shihab: Why is there no confidence, or why has it been lost?
Junblatt: There are many reasons. I have repeatedly said that there is a clear ministerial statement which must be implemented if we are to achieve a minimum degree of political reform. There are also some unresolved matters connected with legislative decrees, the Army, and so forth. All these things must be resolved.

Shihab: Are there any differences of opinion between you and your ally, Minister Nabih Birri?
Junblatt: We have a strong alliance with the Amal movement. Nobody can undermine this alliance. I know nothing about that.

Shihab: PSP Secretary General Anwar al-Fatayri has said in a recent statement that there are differences of opinion between you and Minister Birri.
Junblatt: I do not think that Al-Fatayri made such a statement.

Shihab: It has recently been reported that you intend to resign from the Cabinet.
Junblatt: I have not heard. I do not know.

Shihab: It has been reported that attempts on your life have been exposed. What kind of attempts, and who is behind them?
Junblatt: I prefer not to discuss this matter now. It is premature. All this is a part of the major campaign. Each one of us runs the risk of assassination.

Shihab: You have recently received modern Soviet tanks.
Junblatt: We have tanks of various types. What are these types? I do not know. Ask my military official. He will tell you.

Shihab: What is the purpose of your continuous armament?
Junblatt: We had the arms to begin with. This is not continuous armament. Everyone in Lebanon is armed. There are several armies. When accord is achieved, these arms will probably be useless.

Shihab: Do you expect the Al-Naqurah negotiations to result in the liberation of southern Lebanon?
Junblatt: God willing.

Shihab: You recently met Soviet Ambassador Soldatov. Did he say anything to you about the Soviet attitude toward the negotiations?
Junblatt: That was not my first meeting with the Soviet ambassador, nor will it be the last. The PSP and the Soviet Union have close historical and strategic relations. Furthermore, there is personal friendship between me and Soldatov, their ambassador in Lebanon.

Shihab: The National Democratic Front, whose formation you announced, has not played a prominent part so far.
Junblatt: How is that? At least we have joint forces on all fronts. That is the main task. The front is there. This is a preparatory stage pending the completion of the mountain branches and branches in all Lebanese areas. 'Asim Qansu and George Hawi have been assigned the followup duties.

Shihab: Has the idea of partitioning Lebanon been abandoned?
Junblatt: The partitioning of Lebanon is out of the question. Lebanon cannot be partitioned, but there is still an isolationist plan. That plan, we hope, is fading, but there are doubts still. The aim of the plan is to set up a sectarian state in cooperation with world reactionary circles including the church, or rather the Vatican. The present Pope is playing a bad and provocative role which stretches from Lebanon to Poland to Latin America. He also supports the dictatorial regimes of El Salvador, Panama, Guatemala, and other countries. There is a continuous and interwoven chain. The same design applies to Lebanon.

Shihab: To what extent can we say that there is agreement or identity of views between the PSP and Syria on Lebanon?
Junblatt: We have full coordination with Syria.

Shihab: So the claims about differences of opinion are unfounded.
Junblatt: There are continuous attempts to drive a wedge between us and Syria, but I assure everyone that our relations are strong and cannot be undermined now, or tomorrow, or in a thousand years. Syria and I stand in one rank and one trench.

Shihab: What do you think of the national resistance in southern Lebanon?
Junblatt: I am against anyone talking about it in the press. Let the resistance continue, but I am against discussing it in the newspapers.

Shihab: Why have you decided to move to a house outside of Amman?
Junblatt: I have not done that yet, but I will see. I will move after a while. Damascus is now closer to Beirut than Amman.

Shihab: In other words, there are no political reasons.
Junblatt: None whatsoever. There are no political reasons. I am very grateful to King Husayn for his hospitality, but there are compelling family reasons.

AL-SAFIR Interview
NC111116 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 10 Dec 84
pp 3,4

[Interview with PSP leader Walid Junblatt by correspondent Muwaffaq Madani in Al-Mukhtarah — date not given]

[Excerpt] [Madani] It seems you have left the government?
[Junblatt] (smiling) No, I am still in the government. Why should I leave?

[Madani] Your boycotting of the Cabinet sessions seem as though you have tacitly resigned from the government.
[Junblatt] I have not boycotted the Cabinet sessions and I have not resigned from the government. There are specific circumstances that do not allow me to go to the Cabinet sessions. If there was anything important, I would go to the Cabinet sessions.

[Madani] How many times have you boycotted the Cabinet sessions?
[Junblatt] (interrupting) Even the subject of security is being gradually upset. A Phalangist roadblock was set up in Galerie Sim'an yesterday. This is strange particularly because in this area the so-called legitimate authority is present. How did this Phalangist roadblock appear?

[Madani] This is also so in West Beirut where the youth have set up roadblocks.
[Junblatt] (smiling) This means there is balance and evenness. We have no objection to it.

[Madani] How many times have you been reconciled with President Amin al-Jumayyil? When will the reconciliation be real?
[Junblatt] (seriously) Our differences are not on a personal level, but there are some differences at the political level.

[Madani] Are these political or security differences?
[Junblatt] Political!!

[Madani] Can we pinpoint the differences? What are the political issues between you and President al-Jumayyil for which no solution has yet been found?
[Junblatt] (sharply) The present government is implementing what Shafiq al-Wazzan's government had decided at all levels, with the exception of the 17 May accord. We have not signed a new 17 May accord as yet. We might sign a new 17 May accord! What is the difference between the present government under Rashid, effendi, [Karami] and Al-Wazzan's government?

[Madani] Why then are you staying in the effendi's government?
[Junblatt] (jokingly) Why am I staying, because I sign some papers and we are paving some roads.

[Madani] You appear like a bird singing outside its flock and flying in an unfamiliar sky, with regard to your participation in this government. In fact, you are outside your flock with your main group of Karami, Al-Huss, and your ally, Nabih Birri. You have become as different from them as they have become different from you. Your allies have turned into mediators between you and the regime, instead of both of you being in the same trench.
[Junblatt] In any case, what a wonderful mediator. (laughter)

[Madani] On which positions do you and your allies in the government agree?
[Junblatt] Ask Salim al-Huss about the legislative decrees. Ask him if anything has been done regarding these decrees, if these have been discussed and seriously reconsidered. In my opinion, nothing has been done. Ask Nabih Birri about the 3d Military Bureau which was set up as a state security directorate. I will give you a small example; Beirut's southern suburb was given 10 million Lebanese pounds to be distributed between the suburb and Furn al-Shubbak, and so forth.

[Madani] (interrupting) This is a national unity gesture between the suburb and Furn al-Shubbak.
[Junblatt] (continuing) And so forth of such practices which are small issues.

[Madani] The basic question is between you and your allies, because you described this government as being that of Shafiq al-Wazzan.
[Junblatt] (seriously) I am still calling it the government of Shafiq al-Wazzan.

[Madani] Does this mean that you disagree with them? Particularly with Prime Minister Karami?
[Junblatt] You want to interpret it as a dispute? Do so if you want.

[Madani] (interrupting) I do not want you to have a dispute. My wishes are always that you be in agreement with Prime Minister Karami. Is your disagreement over political issues or over the proposed security plan?
[Junblatt] (rapidly) There has been no kind of dialogue with Prime Minister Karami recently.

[Madani] Frankly, your allies in the government are in harmony with the president's views more than they are in harmony with your views regarding the dispute with the regime.
[Junblatt] It would be better if you asked Al-Huss and Nabih Birri. I believe they have the same stance and views as I do. As for Rashid effendi, I have no idea about his stand. If you ask him, maybe we will hear his viewpoint or a clear political stand.

[Madani] Prime Minister Karami, as is known, is optimistic. He regards the present differences in his government as unimportant.
[Junblatt] (concluding) Unimportant, maybe. If all of this is unimportant, what is left of other issues?

[Madani] (interrupting) But Camille Sham'un is much more optimistic than the prime minister.
[Junblatt] As far as I know, Sham'un was pessimistic some time ago.

[Madani] He told me that he is so optimistic that he expects 1985 to be the year of for a resolution.
[Junblatt] God willing, but where is the resolution?

[Madani] In Lebanon.
[Junblatt] I think he expects the resolution in Poland. (laughing)

[Madani] You mean the resolution is as far as Poland. Do you think that resolving the Lebanese crisis is still far away?
[Junblatt] I have nothing to do with a resolution. I do not involve myself in major strategic polices and leave it to others to enter and draft such strategies.

[Madani] About 1 year has elapsed since this government was formed. What has it achieved?
[Junblatt] (quickly) It has done nothing. It implements Shafiq al-Wazzan's decisions. We cannot understand this anger with Shafiq al-Wazzan. He must be rehabilitated since his decisions are being implemented. This is not a bad idea. Shafiq al-Wazzan is lucky if Lebanese leaders bring about implementation of his decisions. (laughing) The government has done nothing. I have previously said that all the reforms have been referred to committees and, consequently, these are partial and silly reforms because the Lausanne conference was a failure. We have emerged with this phase of a temporary settlement. All reforms have been referred to committees. The most important point in the reforms is the legislative decrees. If they are applied, the structure of the state will be drastically changed. The entire state will come under the hegemony of the Phalange Party.

[Madani] Aren't you in the government? What are you doing?
[Junblatt] We can do nothing. Ask Salim al-Huss and Nabih Birri. If they can achieve anything, I will reward them. We can do nothing.

[Madani] But President Amin al-Jumayyil's team says that all decisions are issued by the Council of Ministers, in which you are members. The examples cited are all the decisions made regarding military and security issues as well as the appointments, activating the Military Council, appointing Army Commander General Michel 'Awn and Staff General Muhammad Tayy Abu Dargham as chief of staff.

[Junblatt] Gen 'Awn was appointed as Army commander as a result of settlement between Lebanon and Syria. We opposed his presence in the Army. After this settlement, each team chose its representative and I chose Staff Gen Abu Dargham, as did the others. This is a sectarian structure and does not mean that the Army's policy and course have changed. The Army is a school in this regime. At the least it can be described as the mercenary school of this regime. It is not a patriotic school. Since its establishment, this Army has been trying to protect the regime and its goals. Today the regime is naturally a Phalangist one; the Army is a Phalangist tool, no more, no less.

[Madani] Regarding the issue of political reforms, didn't you participate in the Bikfayya conclaves and send representatives to the committees stemming from them?
[Junblatt] We did nothing. Ask the representatives if anything has been done. There are so many committees and subcommittees and they all did nothing.

[Madani] In fact, these committees...
[Junblatt] (interrupting, jokingly) There are committees everywhere. (laughing)

[Madani] In fact, these committees have been given 1 year to fulfill their tasks.
[Junblatt] There is 1 month or less left for the legislative decrees. What will be done afterward?

[Madani] Why, in your view, is there this refusal to discuss the legislative decrees?
[Junblatt] They do not want to discuss them. What can we do? They do not want to discuss them. That is what the al-afandi [President al-Jumayyil] wants.

[Madani] I would like you to explain to me the significance of the current Syrian mediation efforts to boost a resolution. What resulted from the reconciliation meeting you attended as a member of the government with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam? We no longer understand anything about this.
[Junblatt] I had the honor to be in the company of Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam for the sake of the supreme national interests, as well as pan-Arab interests. In my view, however, there has been prevarication by certain people; first, to refrain from implementing the ministerial statement and, second, to attempt to gain time for the Phalangist team. They are waiting for an Arab and international equation that would enable them to crush us. The eventual goals of this equation are clear and aimed at encircling Syria. This equation might be more dangerous than last year's, when the U.S. fleet was stationed off our shores.

[Madani] The Lebanese front says that it has made basic changes in its stand. It made changes in the positions of the Phalange Party and the Lebanese Forces, and handed the legal ports over to the state. This team says it made these changes to boost the government march in consolidating a resolution to the Lebanese crisis.
[Junblatt] (seriously) We do not attach any importance to these changes in the Phalangist team because they are all the same. There is no difference whether Amin al-Jumayyil or anyone else takes control. They all have the same color and stand. Sometimes

they change their colors, but eventually they all adopt the same policy.

[Madani] But there is deep understanding between President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian leaders regarding the implementation of what was agreed upon during the Geneva and Lausanne talks?
[Junblatt] Syrian policy has its priorities. We share this understanding because we are Syria's allies for better or for worse, and we will continue to be so. Syria is trying to oust Israel from Lebanon unconditionally. Should Syria succeed, and should we as Lebanese citizens succeed, that would signify a coup in the Middle East equation. It would also mean the destruction of all the alliances being contrived against Syria — Camp David and its ilk. This is Syria's priority and we share this priority. We understand the importance of this Syrian priority. For this reason, some other issues could take a secondary place. Also for this reason Syria supports the Al-Naqurah negotiations.

But the issue is not a Syrian issue; there is the issue of the Phalange Party. We must go back to the policy of the Phalange Party. Does this party really want to oust Israel from the south? We are aware that they are outbidding evening and morning, and are calling for liberation and so on and so forth. I can only see that the war for controlling Jabal Lubnan will be a long one. This is the [aim of the] old radical Christian, Phalangist plan. The partition plan is still continuing. Since the 19th century, the obstacle to this plan has been, and will always continue to be, Jabal Lubnan — who will control Jabal Lubnan. Whoever controls Jabal Lubnan will control Lebanon.

In this context, reform is ridiculous — any reform, even if a balance is established between the Christians and the Muslims in the Chamber of Deputies. It would be a ridiculous reform because actual decisionmaking is in the hands of the ruling party, the Phalange Party — political decisionmaking, economic decisionmaking, and military decisionmaking.

[Madani] You are talking as if no solution exists in Lebanon and no national unity government is leading this solution.
[Junblatt] I say what I feel. I have chosen during this period not to say very much to give the so-called Al-Naqurah talks a chance. Regrettably, these talks will not be fruitful. In the meantime, I try to recall history. We in the mountain, and precisely the Junblatt family, can behave only on the basis of judging past history. This is because we have suffered many agonies. I am referring to the period that dates back to Bashir al-Shihabi's era. If anyone wants to understand Walid Junblatt's policy, he should read the history of Lebanon, the history of Bashir al-Shihabi, and what Bashir al-Shihabi did to the Junblatt family and to the Druze of the mountain. History is now being repeated at the hands of the Phalange Party.

[Madani] After Geneva and Lausanne, everyone imagined that Lebanon was facing new realities. These realities were based on having the Islamic and Nationalist Party participate extensively in the government. There is Prime Minister Rashid Karami, as well as Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies; and Ministers Salim al-Huss and Nabih Birri, in addition to you and what nationalist influence you, Walid Junblatt, represent. President Amin al-Jumayyil's party believes that it has achieved participation, whereas its grass roots believe that this participation has tipped the balance in your favor. This is a fact.
[Junblatt] If this situation is regarded as participation, I do not consider it as such, because it is artificial and not real participation; political decisionmaking is still in the hands of Shaykh Amin. Since the Al-Wazzan government and up to now, the parliamentary system has gradually turned into a presidential system. Do not tell me that the Chamber of Deputies, in its present state — and if it is expanded — can actually achieve participation. If we achieve fifty-fifty participation in the Chamber of Deputies and we do not have the fundamental political decision, of what benefit will this be to us? There is a huge economic hegemony and there is the importance of the legislative decrees. [Former] Prime Minister Salim al-Huss knows what I mean and so does Nabih Birri. There are legislative decrees that, if they are applied on the economic level or the workers level, would mean goodby to everything.

[Madani] I repeat that President al-Jumayyil's party says that it has tried to reach an understanding with you, personally, on a specific basis, and that it has fulfilled your requests.
[Junblatt] [interrupts] What did they fulfill for me? What requests? There is nothing. We are prepared at any moment to establish a relationship of confidence. We believe that there is a plan as a result of certain conditions, and that this plan is continuing.

[Madani] President Amin al-Jumayyil's team also says that President al-Jumayyil is always surprised that he can reach an understanding with you in private meetings on basic and secondary issues, but after these meetings you behave conversely. It also says that you abort security plans and that in the past 2 years you have aborted several security plans.
[Junblatt] It would have been splendid and beautiful if we had agreed to the previous security plan and accepted this Army, which killed and slew us in Kafr Matta and Al-Shahhar. It would have been beautiful if we had agreed to this Army's deployment in 'Alayh and in other areas. No patriot or Druze would have remained on Lebanese soil. If they want to slay me, I will not so easily put my neck on the block. Regarding the new security plan, I do not want to go into details. We support the Army's entry into the south, but we reject its deployment along the road. We support the Army's entry into the south and have no objections. On the contrary. You know that the Army is present in the eastern areas by mutual agreement. There are also barracks for the Lebanese [Forces] and a military bulge for these forces in the area by mutual agreement. We also have Army units in our areas by mutual agreement. Why should there be Phalangists, artillery, and tanks along the coastal road and in Iqlim al-Kharrub against Walid Junblatt? Why? Does Rashid Karami agree to this? Do all the patriots in Lebanon agree that Walid Junblatt be slain? If they accept this, I ask for their judgment. If they want to phase me out, let them do that. What can we do?

[Madani] Walid Bey, no one wants to phase you out, but the Lebanese want a solution. I am here to convey your views on the security plan, that you propose to convince everyone.
[Junblatt] I maintain that I do not want to go into details so that it will not be said that I say one thing at the Cabinet meeting, then when I emerge say something else. We support the Army's entry and its right to enter the south. Incidentally, there are more

than 2,000 unarmed Lebanese Army personnel in barracks in the south. Why are they not used in the so-called security arrangements with Israel?

[Madani] Walid Bey, there is the Council of Ministers, which includes everyone, and there is also the Military Council, which represents everyone. In addition, the Defense Ministry is held by a patriot, [former Chamber of Deputies Speaker] 'Adil 'Usayran. You are represented in all these bodies empowered to issue security and military resolutions. You and I have not yet put our finger on the problem. Where is the problem?
[Junblatt] The problem lies in the security plan submitted, which we opposed. We entrusted our representative in the Military Council, Staff Gen Abu Dargham, to draft a new security plan in coordination with the patriotic team — Colonel Lutfi Jabir, and the man for whom I harbor great esteem and appreciation, Brigadier General Nabil Quraytim.

[Madani] I conclude from your answer that there is no basic disagreement over the proposed security plan, and that there are views set forth for discussions to reach an acceptable formula.
[Junblatt] If you want to call them views. I did not mention this issue to the information media, but the PSP representatives have a right to express their views, particularly since we are again being subjected to an information campaign by the Lebanese Forces and the so-called Radio Free Lebanon. We have the right to answer them.

[Madani] Today all attention is focused on two issues — the Al-Naqurah talks, which will decide the fate of southern Lebanon, and the issue of the Israeli withdrawal. The state has to fill any security vacuums so that what happened in the mountain will not happen in the south. Your position is basic, because the solution in the south stems from your areas.
[Junblatt] If the Phalangists withdraw militarily and politically from Iqlim al-Kharrub, we will be prepared to give the same reassuring solution to the Christian people in Al-Kharrub as we have done in Dayr al-Qamar. This is despite the fact that the Israelis interfered in Dayr al-Qamar and took away their supporters. Later on, however, in arrangement with Dayr al-Qamar Mayor George Dib and the people of the town, we managed to neutralize it. I believe now that Dayr al-Qamar is now neutral and safe. We are ready to do the same thing for all the Iqlim al-Kharrub villages, provided there is no Phalangist presence in either the Iqlim al-Kharrub or on the road. We will not accept that what happened in Al-Damur recurs in Al-Jiyah or Al-Rumaylah. We will not accept this. This is not Walid Junblatt's line but the line of all the people and sects of the south.

[Madani] You mean that the Lebanese Forces are supposed to withdraw when all withdraw for the sake of the security plan, that is, the legitimate authorities. [sentence as received]
[Junblatt] (nervously) What legitimate authorities? What is this term legitimate authorities. The Army is a tool for a certain regime. We need Army units about which we can be reassured. We will not agree to Army deployment in the Iqlim al-Kharrub. We agree to the deployment of the Internal Security Forces as in Dayr al-Qamar; no more, no less. (after a short pause) There are units in the Army that are loyal to the regime, and there are other units less loyal to the regime and less dangerous to us than the units, for instance, that are present in the eastern area.

[Madani] Walid Bey, do you not feel that with these views, you are departing from the stances of others, particularly the Syrians, who do not share your views?
[Junblatt] I previously said that if the Syrians, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, Salim al-Huss, Nabih Birri, and all nationalists in Lebanon, including Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, whose stances I began to appreciate and seriously consider, want Walid Junblatt, let us say it more openly. If they want to slaughter the Druze in Lebanon, then I will make the appropriate decision!

[Madani] This solution is not supposed to slaughter anyone in Lebanon, but is supposed to bring about national accord.
[Junblatt] We are aware of the Phalange Party's intentions toward us and we have no doubt about this. Despite their overt statements, we are aware of what they are concealing.

[Madani] What is the outlet then?
[Junblatt] We were told that Amin al-Jumayyil was in control of his group in East Beirut. Let him first contain his group and withdraw them from Iqlim al-Kharrub. Let him do this. What do the citizens of Ksrawan or Jubayl have in common with Iqlim al-Kharrub, for example?

[Madani] The "Lebanese Forces" say through Na'um Farah that they have no armed forces in Iqlim al-Kharrub.
[Junblatt] (interrupting) If 30 tanks do not constitute an armed presence in the Iqlim, what does? Pershing and cruise missiles or the atomic bomb?

[Madani] If unilaterally, Israel withdrew from the south, and the legitimate authorities were unable to fill the vacuum and massacres took place, God forbid, would you not be partly responsible? What will happen if we find no solution to this problem?
[Junblatt] It is not I who creates obstacles. They always blame me while I create no obstacles. He who drew up the security plan to besiege the mountain created obstacles. Let them draw up a security plan compatible with the fears of the mountain people, and hence with the aspiration of the mountain people. We are ready for the security plan and we have no objection.

[Madani] Frankly, there is some ambiguity regarding what you, Walid Junblatt, really want.
[Junblatt] I am for the Army crossing into the south, but not for its deployment along the highway. This is my stand. It will not change even if I am alone.

We accept the Army implementing security arrangements by crossing into the south, — from Al-Qasimiyah onward, I stress from Al-Qasimiyah onward. The south does not begin from the Al-Awwali River. If the geography of the south begins from the Al-Awwali, this is very serious, because it means that some people in Lebanon have absolutely given up the south.

[Madani] It is feared, as reiterated, that Lebanon will fall into an actual system of partition, with the mountain divided into a Druze area in Al-Shuf and 'Alayh and a Christian area in Al-Matn Al-Shamali, and Kasrawan.
[Junblatt] (interrupting) There are no sweeter words than those about partition, particularly when condemnations are made by the party which actually divided Lebanon and which only wants to control whatever is left.

Partition has been taking place in Lebanon since 1975, when the Phalangist statelet emerged. The partition plan has been in existence for 10 years. As I said before, the obstacle was and will remain, the mountain. If you control the mountain, you dominate Lebanon. Hence, the racist Phalangist statelet will be a new Israel in the Middle East. For every event there is talk.

[Madani] There are those who accuse you, through the foreign information media, of seeking to set up a Druze statelet.
[Junblatt] Where will I set up the Druze state, in Baysur, which was destroyed, or in 'Alayh, which was burned, or in Al-Shuwayfat, which is rubble? Let them tell us how a Druze state will emerge.

They always put us, as Druze, in a self-defense position. We do not answer because there is no need to defend ourselves against accusations levelled by Israeli and Western agents. As for the new crusade, we are ready to fight it, and we will fight it.

[Madani] What is you general national plan?
[Junblatt] I have a unitary national plan through the democratic national front. If I want to go farther, I have a secular national plan. It is not my plan, but that of Kamal Junblatt. I did not propose it and I did not invent something new. Radically reforming the political system will eliminate communal rule and will actually set up citizens rule.

[Madani] In view of your past experience with the National Movement, are you serious in your participation in the National Democratic Front?
[Junblatt] Yes, I take it seriously. i naturally take it seriously, why not? If others do not want to take the National Democratic Front seriously, then this is another matter because these others are conspirators.

[Madani] What importance do you give to the National Democratic Front's talk about the prevailing situation in Lebanon?
[Junblatt] I have been in alliance with these parties in the past and I will remain in alliance with them. They are the parties which formed the national movement and participated in it. This movement will remain a national heritage which neither Walid Junblatt nor anyone else can cancel.

[Madani] Why has the Democratic Front been declared without much fuss?
[Junblatt] The National Democratic Front and the secular democratic trend have many rightist and leftist, Muslim and Christian enemies. However the secular democratic line is the only alternative to secterian rule — this farm [as published] which I call the secterian rule.

[Madani] Isn't it a mini-national movement?
[Junblatt] What is wrong with it? If others are unhappy, then this is not my business.

[Madani] There are some forces which were members of the National Movement but are now outside the National Democratic Front?
[Junblatt] There are some forces outside the front because some Lebanese sides have joined Arab axes. What can we do? Anyone who wants to join us in the National Democratic Front is welcome, but no one can disregard us.

[Madani] What could the establishment of the National Democratic Front offer at this stage?
[Junblatt] The front has started adopting political stands and will make specific arrangements. Anyhow, we as parties, are militarily allied on the ground. There are joint forces on some fronts — I will not say where — in the mountain area.

[Madani] Is the purpose of establishing the national front to strengthen the national accord, or is it just preparedness for the possible return of tension and war?
[Junblatt] It is for all eventualities — for the accord if there is a room for the accord, and for a war if there is a war.

[Madani] Regarding the Al-Naqurah discussions, you did not attend the Cabinet's session which made the decision on the start of the Lebanese-Israeli discussions. Was your absence meant to express a rejection of these discussions?
[Junblatt] Let others answer this question. Basically I do not believe that these discussions will produce any results. Let us give the solution an opportunity. My nonparticipation in the Cabinet meeting then, in my capacity as a socialist or anything else, was for reasons which I will not disclose now.

[Madani] Does this mean that you support the Al-Naqurah discussions?
[Junblatt] If they are contained within the framework of the armistice agreement, yes we support them. I also support giving a role to the United Nations on the border. But if these discussions go beyond this framework and we end up in a new 17 May agreement, then I disapprove of them. I have previously warned that these discussions might lead to a new 17 May agreement.

[Madani] However the Syrian, Arab, and even the international stands, such as that of the Soviets, consider the Lebanese-Israeli discussions to be taking place within the framework of the armistice agreement and believe that Lebanon fully abides by the stand imposed on Israel to withdraw from south Lebanon.
[Junblatt] Your Arab and international information is a little wrong. I will say no more. It is true though, that Syria supports these discussions if they are confined within the framework of the United Nations and give a role to UNIFIL.

[Madani] Do I understand from what you say, that the Al-Naqurah discussions were initiated without a framework — the armistice agreement?
[Junblatt] They are still in the stage of rhetoric and speeches. May they, God willing, end in writing a beautiful composition. It is clear however, that Israel is procrastinating. Why does it procrastinate? It is very simple. Why should Israel withdraw and give the patriots in Lebanon, and Lebanon itself, their independence and sovereignty, and also allow Syria to provide a comprehensive solution in Lebanon? Why should the United States want Israel to withdraw from Lebanon? The United States will not force Israel to withdraw from Lebanon, because the United States still wants to expel Syria from Lebanon. This has been Haig's policy, and it is Shultz' policy now. The United States wants to tame Syria and destroy it. There is an Arab alliance

which is against Syria. Syria is being surrounded. Israel's interests coincide with those of this alliance, one way or the other.

[Madani] You mean that you do not expect an Israeli withdrawal under the circumstances?
[Junblatt] Let us hope that the optimists, those who are historically optimists, will realize their expectations.

[Madani] During his recent visit to Lebanon, Shim'on Peres said he will withdraw from Lebanon in a few months time. What does this mean?
[Junblatt] Where does he want to withdraw to in months? Will he withdraw to Al-Zahrani or Al-Qasimiyah? Where? Let us ask Peres where he will withdraw to. He might withdraw two meters and say: I have withdrawn.

[Madani] What is the status of your alliance with Amal movement leader Nabih Birri?
[Junblatt] There are no problems with Nabih Birri; we are allies. I and all of us support the liberation of the south, but God help the people of the south if the Army enters there; the southerner will move from under the spears of the Israelis to under the spears of the Army.

[Madani] Nabih Birri supports the security plan for the coast and the south while you oppose it?
[Junblatt] Do not try to play on words. As I have told you, I have explained my stand on the security plan to Nabih Birri and Salim al-Huss. As I have already said, if Nabih Birri and Salim al-Huss want the mountain war's gains to be lost through the so-called security plan, I will retire and sit in my house.

[Madani] Why did you not reach an agreement on controlling the security situation in Beirut? The state's security plan for Beirut was recently violated. There have been complaints from various parties, and your party has recently clashed with a number of parties in Beirut.
[Junblatt] We support the return of the so-called legitimate authority. However, I issued a warning in Bikfayya in the past, that if the state wants to return to govern Beirut as it did before 6 February, we will reject it. We want to be reassured that the state's rule is a just one. We do not agree that the state should come to us and pull us from our homes, or to kill us on the roads as has happened in the past. We will not accept this.

[Madani] What is the formula for safeguarding the security of Beirut?
[Junblatt] There is a formula stipulating that the Islamic grouping should be transformed to include all the functionaries. Why is the Islamic grouping confined to certain persons? Why should it not embrace all the political functionaries and take clear political stances on all the national issues; not just on the security of Beirut? We respect the security plan for Beirut. We also appreciate that what is taking place in Beirut is the result of chaos, and also the result of a very bad social situation. Do not forget that there is a stifling social crisis affecting everyone. The last measure taken by the Cabinet to raise the subsidies has been catastrophic. No one raised a finger; did the Islamic grouping make a move to remove the injustices from the poor in Beirut?

[Madani] This is your government.

[Junblatt] This is an ineffective government. It is paralyzed and can do nothing. It is called a national unity government, but there is absolutely no collaboration in it. Collaboration is nonexistent. We are simply false witnesses.

[Madani] You have drawn a gloomy picture for me.
[Junblatt] I have not drawn a gloomy picture. Others speak vaguely, replaying a record that we've been hearing for 10 years, or they slip on a banana peel. That is a fact. I believe that the causes of the political conflict in Lebanon have not ended.

[Madani] I will be frank with you. Does this mean that the Syrian solution in Lebanon has failed?
[Junblatt] No. We believe that the Syrian solution can be successful. If I offer my facts, others might have more. Everyone speaks on the basis of available information. If what is required, as I have said previously, is that I collect my weapons, sit in my house in Al-Mukhtarah, and wait for the Lebanese Army to come and kill me, then let Rashid Karami come with the other allies and tell me: This is what we want from you, Walid Junblatt. Come along and commit suicide.

I want to hear it from them; I want to hear them tell me that this will lead us to the liberation of the south and to the so-called legitimacy. We would then cross that bridge as we come to it.

[Madani] A dialogue in which Arab and friendly states are taking part is now underway. Shouldn't the dialogue be given a chance, on the basis of the new situation?
[Junblatt] I have given it a chance. We have always supported dialogue, and I pariticpate in it through representatives, as you know. I have problems here on the mountain; there are numerous burdens. I have many problems.

[Madani] What do you have to say about the present situation in the region in light of current Arab moves?
[Junblatt] Some people run after a so-called peaceful solution. Where is this peaceful solution? There is no peaceful solution. We see only a capitulatory solution.

[Madani] You are very pessimistic, Walid Bey.
[Junblatt] I am not pessimistic. This is the truth. We, the Arabs, wrongly believe that the United States will give us our rights. We Arabs must forcibly wrest our rights from the Americans. We must not beg the Americans to give us our rights. This is an illusion some Arabs believe in. The other illusion has always been to wait for the U.S. elections, as if they might change U.S. policy. This policy will not change. The United States is plundering the Arab world. The United States will give the Arabs their rights only if a genuine movement is established in the Arab world to oppose the United States through a jihad, in every sense of the word, against the Americans, their interests, and their associates.

[Madani] How do you distinguish between the experiment involving the National Movement and that of the National Democratic Front?
[Junblatt] The National Democratic Front is a continuation of the National Movement, and any evaluation would be premature.

[Madani] Will you set up bodies and institutions for the National Front?
[Junblatt] Why should we set up bodies and institutions? Let us meet, as we do, and participate in existing military and security organizations; this is enough.

Junblatt Returns From Meeting With Syrians

Met With Khaddam

NC111050 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] A socialist source has stated that Minister Walid Junblatt returned from Damascus today. Junblatt met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam yesterday and reviewed with him the explosive security situation.

Met With Al-Asad

NC111234 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] A setback took place in the security situation in Iqlim al-Kharrub before noon today, following a cease-fire that lasted until this morning. Meanwhile, a guarded calm prevails in the mountain area following an aggravation of the security situation which reached its climax yesterday when residential areas came under artillery fire.

It was reported a short while ago that a cease-fire was agreed upon at 1335, following contacts among the parties concerned through the Quadripartite Security Committee.

It was also reported that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad this morning received Walid Junblatt, minister of public works and tourism. The talks at the meeting dealt with the current security and political situations in Lebanon.

Junblatt arrived in Damascus yesterday, where on arrival he met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Khaddam To Visit Beirut

NC120656 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Excerpts] The situation is gloomy, but not desperate. Despite the gloomy situation generated by the wide-scale flareup in the mountain, Iqlim al-Kharrub, and on the coastal line, as well as in the eastern part of Beirut and Al-Matn, the crossing points remained open during the intensive contacts held among various parties last night.

A 6-hour meeting was held last night among Marwan Hamadah, Khalid Junblatt, Akram Shuhayyib, Michel Samahah, Ibrahim Shuwayri, Colonel Simon Qassis, and Dr Jamil Ni'mah. Sources close to Minister Walid Junblatt said the meeting was neither negative nor positive, adding that various political, military, and security themes were discussed. The same sources pointed out that Junblatt will not attend the Cabinet session today because he wants to avoid any involvement in acrimonious debates.

Reliable political sources called for coordinating efforts with Syria. They expect that Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam will visit Beirut during the next few days to give the last necessary momentum to the coastal deployment plan, which was slightly modified after Junblatt's rejection of the Army deployment near Al-Mukhtarah or on roadblocks along the road to the south. The same sources expect that Michel Samahah will soon visit Damascus.

Birri Links Israel to Security Flareup

NC111433 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Lawyer Nabih Birri, minister of state for southern and reconstruction affairs and minister of justice and hydroelectric resources, has stated that Israel is behind the security flareup. He added that in his capacity as a minister in the present government and chairman of the Amal movement, he does not accept the UNIFIL deployment other than within the framework of Security Council Resolution 425. Birri stressed that Israel's threat to effect a partial withdrawal is an act of pressure on Lebanon aimed at changing the UNIFIL deployment responsibilities.

Tripoli Security Plan Implementation Adjourned

NC111938 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami said tonight that the implementation of the security plan in the city of Tripoli has been adjourned for 48 hours for practical reasons. Army Commander General Michel 'Awn tonight telephoned Prime Minister Karami and briefed him on the security situation in the various areas, particularly in the Iqlim al-Kharrub and mountain areas. Prime Minister Karami directed that the appropriate contacts should be intensified to stop the security tension and to restore calm.

Prime Minister Karami met with Major General 'Uthman 'Uthman, director general of the Internal Security Forces, and reviewed with him the security situation.

RFL on Israeli Reinforcements in Al-Biqa'

NC120707 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Intensive Israeli military movements have been monitored in Al-Biqa' over the past 3 days. Israeli troops have reinforced their positions in Jubb Jannin, Al-Baruq, and 'Ammiq, and have taken stringent security measures around thee positions. Yesterday, the Israelis brought in fresh reinforcements to Al-Biqa' through Al-Hasbani, consisting of trucks, heavy tanks, and armored personnel carriers. The Israeli forces were observed transporting heavy artillery pieces to Al-Baruq ridges via the Jannin-Mashgharah road.

These reinforcements come simultaneously with intensive movements by Israeli troops along the confrontation line with the Syrian forces. Israeli patrols conducted large-scale search operations in the buffer zone, particularly in Ghazzah and 'Ammiq.

Sham'un Leaves for London, Makes Statement

NC111445 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text]Camille Sham'un, minister of finance, housing and cooperatives, left Beirut for London at 1200 today on what he described as a private visit. Asked about the opening of the coastal road, Sham'un said that the reopening of this road is not an issue that involves the south alone; rather, it is a duty within the context of national security. Its reopening, he added, means that the security plan in Lebanon has succeeded.

On the issue of Israel's threats of a partial withdrawal, Sham'un said: The withdrawal does not frighten us, unless they have plotted with certain individuals to create incidents.

Asked whether there was any evidence that a new government will be formed in Lebanon soon, Sham'un answered: I don't think so.

Al-Asad Meets With Lebanon's Walid Junblatt

JN111816 Damascus Televison Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Walid Junblatt, Progressive Socialist Party leader and Lebanese minister of public works and tourism, at 1300 today. The talks revolved around the situation in the Lebanese arena, the need to achieve an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, and the continuation of the march of national accord.

Khaddam Meets With U.S. Envoy Richard Murphy

JN111808 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, at 1800 today. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', Assistant Foreign Minister 'Isam al-Na'ib, U.S. Ambassador in Damascus William Eagleton, and the delegation accompanying Murphy, attended the meeting. The talks dealt with issues regarding the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Lebanon.

Ba'th Party Central Committee Resumes Meetings

JN111234 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Central Committee resumed its meetings at 1030 today under the chairmanship of President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party. The committee continued its discussion of the reports to be submitted to the Ba'th Party's eighth regional congress.

During this meeting the committee completed its discussion of the organizational and political reports. It will resume meetings this evening to discuss other reports.

Oil Minister Returns From OAPEC Meeting

JN111655 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Damascus — Ghazi Durubi, minister of oil and mineral wealth, returned to Damascus at noon today after heading the 33d OAPEC ministerial meeting that was held in Kuwait on 8 December. It is worth noting that the meeting adopted several important decisions and recommendations in the oil industry field and joint Arab action.

AL-BA'TH on U.S.-Israeli Naval Maneuvers

JN120945 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0800 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Damascus, 12 Dec (SANA) — Commenting on the U.S. naval maneuvers which began yesterday, in cooperation with the Israeli forces, within the framework of the strategic alliance between them, the newspaper *AL-BA'TH* today says that this alliance has the common objective of confronting the growing Syrian force and imposing the U.S. solutions.

It adds: Washington's choice of the current phase to hold these maneuvers was neither randon nor incidental; it was part of an accurately-studied plan aimed at demonstrating the strength of the alliance as a supporter for the Amman-Cairo axis and the 'Arafatist political wing, in an attempt to stimulate this axis by putting several Arab under the pressure of power. [sentence as received]

The paper adds: Choosing the current circumstances for the maneuvers has also the more important aim of threatening and provoking Syria in an attempt to intimidate it, in the hope of changing its firm, principled opposition of their wicked hostile schemes.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* says: Syria will continue to be this nation's living conscience, which does not allow for the distortion of its history. Syria will continue to be a strong arm that rejects and resists the overt and covert attempts to humiliate and subjugate this nation.

Briefs

Sharaf Meets With Envoys — Damascus, 11 Dec (SANA) — Dr Kamal Sharaf, minister of state for planning affairs, received separately the Soviet and Bulgarian ambassadors in Damascus this evening. The talks dealt with relations of cooperation and friendship between Syria on the one hand, and the Soviet Union and Bulgaria respectively on the other, in the economic, scientific, and technical spheres, as well as ways to develop them in the interest of the two friendly peoples and countries. [Text][*Damascus SANA in arabic 1820 GMT 11 Dec 84 JN*]

Peres Answers Questions at Knesset Committee

Compromise Could Split Government

TA111217 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has said that there is no doubt that if negotiations with Jordan require territorial compromise, it will be impossible to preserve the government's integrity. He was speaking at a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. The prime minister also reviewed his visit to France and emphasized the warm reception by both the opposition and coalition.

Knesset Member Victor Shem-Tov [MAPAM] asked to hear details about the nuclear reactor deal, but the prime minister refused to answer, fearing a leak on the matter. Victor Shem-Tov protested what he called the attempt to wrap the supply of reactors in a veil of secrecy.

Questions Lebanese Intentions

TA111426 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] The prime minister has said that following his talks with the French president, he believes the Syrian president's positions on strategy are still extremist although he is now prepared to be more flexible on tactical matters. Peres told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that in his opinion the Jordanian king had not changed his positions, although his self-confidence had been given a boost.

Replying to a question, the prime minister emphasized that the Jordan-Egypt-PLO axis had for the most part been created to meet internal needs. Referring to Lebanon, the prime minister said Israel must confront two problems: hearing only one Lebanese position and ascertaining whether Lebanon is really and truly interested in an Israeli withdrawal.

Peres To Visit Romania

TA120913 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 12 Dec 84 p 1

[Report by the diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has accepted an invitation from President Nicolae Ceausescu to visit Romania, probably in February.

Peres has also been invited to Italy — the country which will take over the presidency of the EEC from January 1.

Peres told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee that an initial invitation from Ceausescu had been conveyed to him by MK 'Uzi Bar'am secretary general of the Labour Party, who recently attended the Romanian Communist Party's 13th Congress.

Peres Interviewed by LE MONDE During Visit

PM111534 Paris LE MONDE in French 8 Dec 84 pp 1, 6

[Interview with Prime Minister Shimon Peres by Francoise Chipaux and Jacques Amalric in Paris on 6 December]

[Text] Question: What in your view is the most serious crisis in the Near East today? Is it the Israeli-Arab conflict? Is it the war between Iran and Iraq?

Answer: In the Middle East today the Iranian-Iraqi war is becoming a decisive factor because it is not only a confrontation between two countries, but also a religious confrontation between two camps. On one side are the Syrians and the Libyans, with the Iranians. In Iran we have seen the only religious revolution which has taken place in that country, with very determined militants who show no sign of moderation and who are still full of fanaticism and extremism. On the other side are the Egyptians, the Jordanians, the Gulf countries, and 'Arafat's PLO. For the time being it is this latter camp which seems to be winning.

Question: Do you put Yasir 'Arafat in that camp?

Answer: Yes, for the time being. This is not the result of a choice made by 'Arafat, but since all the Arab countries are vying with each other to protect the PLO, he had only the Jordanian option left. In this general context, the Arab-Israeli conflict is not at the forefront for the time being; it only comes after the Iranian-Iraqi conflict.

Question: How do you view the situation in the "moderates'" camp?

Answer: As a result of the Iranian-Iraqi confrontation Jordan feels slightly reassured. Egypt is very satisfied with the resumption of diplomatic relations with Amman. As for 'Arafat, he is satisfied because he has won a prestigious victory, because he has regained his leadership, and because the split in the PLO is not final; doors have been left open for the organization's various movements.

Finally, King Husayn, who was condemned by the PLO not so long ago, had the satisfaction of seeing the organization meet in his country. On that occasion he delivered a very tough speech telling the PLO delegates that the time for the crucial choice had come.

Question: Do you interpret that speech as an indirect response to your proposals on a Jordanian solution to the conflict?

Answer: This speech contained elements which we found interesting, for instance the importance attached to the UN resolutions — to Resolution 242, and to the one relating to the partition of Palestine. Another thing: The king recalled that his grandfather was assassinated because of his realism. King Husayn, on the other hand, once again promised to regain control of the territories administered by Israel and to unify Jerusalem. But where does rhetoric end and politics begin? It is very difficult to say.

Question: Do you think King Husayn or President al-Asad is the most important interlocutor for Israel?

Answer: On the Lebanese question it is still Al-Asad. But with regard to the Israeli-Arab conflict, there is no Syrian option. There is a limited Syrian option for the situation in Lebanon. This affair has a very limited local nature.

Question: Do you think that Mr Mitterrand's visit to Damascus might encourage the conclusion of an agreement on withdrawal from southern Lebanon?

Answer: I do not know, but President Mitterrand has had direct contact with Al-Asad and I find it very interesting to hear his impressions.

But I cannot talk about them, because I never quote a head of state. Nonetheless, the European countries must maintain contact with Syria, and Mr Mitterrand said something very important in Damascus: "Mr Peres is a friend of France, and France is Israel's friend."

Question: What do you think of the plan for an international conference on the Near East which Mr Mitterrand rather reluctantly supported?

Answer: We are not in favor of it because it would place Israel in an inferior position. What chance would we have sitting at the same table as the representatives of Syria, Jordan, and the Soviet Union?

Question: Nonetheless, you want to resume diplomatic relations with Moscow.

Answer: This depends not on us but on the Russians. It is up to the Soviet Union, which broke off its relations with us, to reestablish them. In addition, I think that the Soviets are not satisfied with their exclusive ties with the Syrians.

Question: Is the real question in southern Lebanon how to establish the UN Interim Force in Lebanon [UNIFIL] on your border in place of Major Lahd's army?

Answer: This is a Lebanese proposal, but we think there should be a Lebanese military force along our border. Our problem is not one of controlling southern Lebanon's politics, but one of obtaining the security measures necessary for northern Israel.

Question: Would you agree to Major Lahd's army being integrated into the Lebanese Army?

Answer: Yes, If we are allowed to maintain special contact with it.

Question: Are you in favor of an increase in UNIFIL's strength?

Answer: Yes, it should be increased. It should increase from 7,000 men to 10,000 men.

Question: What is the reason for this sudden confidence in the United Nations?

Answers: I am optimistic, and I think people can change their opinions.

Question: Do you agree that the intervention in Lebanon and the occupation of the south sparked off a serious moral crisis in your country?

Answer: Not really a moral crisis, but the consequences are nonetheless important; we think that we must end our presence there and that it is an obstacle to peace. It is a policy which has no future and can only delay things. The problem of the administered territories is much more important in the long term than the southern Lebanon problem.

Question: What contract have you drawn up with the Likud on this subject?

Answer: We have proposed an improvement in the living conditions on the West Bank and the appointment of Arab mayors in cities still under military administration. I am not sure that all the Likud members of the Cabinet are very happy.

'Rumors' of Peres-Husayn Meeting in Israel Cited

PM111542 Paris LE MONDE in French 9-10 Dec 84 p 1

["J.A." report: "Secret Husayn-Peres Meeting?"]

[Text] King Husayn recently visited Israel to meet with Mr Peres, according to a reliable source. This meeting apparently took place about 1 month ago, in other words, before the Palestine National Council meeting in Amman. It was apparently the first meeting between the two men since Mr Peres became leader of the national unity government formed with the Likud last July.

This report, which has been circulating in the form of rumors for some days, has not been denied or confirmed in Mr Peres' entourage in Paris. The Israeli prime minister himself did not deny it Friday, 7 December, although he had the opportunity to do so when he was questioned on his "meetings" with King Husayn by the Europe 1 and 89 FM radio stations. When it was stated that the Jordanian king had just said he had "friendly feelings" toward him, Mr Peres said the feeling was "mutual;" he added that "the time has come to have serious dialogue" with Amman. "We must immediately start direct negotiations" with King Husayn, the Israeli prime minister also said, although he thinks it is necessary to have "patience" and take "a gradual" approach because, in his view, negotiations should relate not only to the Palestinian problem, but also to the "strategic, economic, and political" questions facing the two countries.

With regard to his "meetings" with the Jordanian king, Mr Peres avoided the subject, simply stating that he was willing to comment on King Husayn "as a person" but not on a "special event." During the program, Mr Peres also said he was prepared to visit Amman at any time, provided the Arab countries are open to Israeli leaders in the same way that Israel is open to Arab leaders.

These statements Friday evening can be compared with the remarks made by Mr Peres the previous evening in the interview he granted to *LE MONDE*. According to the Labor Party prime

minister, there were "interesting elements" for Israel in the speech delivered by King Husayn to the PLO delegates on 22 November. Some observers conclude that Husayn's speech — which aimed to prompt the Palestinians to open negotiations with Israel — was an initial result of the Peres-Husayn meeting, although they are aware of the difficulty Mr Peres will have, when the time comes, in persuading the Likud members of his Cabinet to back the "Jordanian option."

Another event connected with Mr Peres' visit is the long private meeting between Mr Hubert Vedrine, Mr Mitterrand's diplomatic adviser, and Mr Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee and Mr 'Arafat's close aide. The meeting took place Friday at the Saudi Arabian Embassy, which was giving a lunch in honor of the Palestinian official who is "passing through Paris."

Rabin on 'Targets' of National Unity Government

TA111250 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1215 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that the IDF must consolidate the national consensus around it, both through its very existence and its actions. The defense minister said that the IDF must act to moderate trends toward national polarization — whether political, social, or religious — as far as possible.

In a talk he held with the heads of the IDF education branch, Mr Rabin detailed the targets of the national unity government, which are, from his viewpoint: extricating the economy from its crisis, solving the Lebanese problem, and warming up the cold peace with Egypt in order to enable an opening of the peace process with Jordan. The defense minister added that in the foreseeable future he does not see any chances for achieving peace with Syria.

Peretz Quits Government in Portfolio Dispute

TA111711 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Minister Yitzhaq Peretz of SHAS has handed in a letter of resignation from the government to the prime minister and has informed the latter that his movement is quitting the coalition. This is reported by our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami.

In his letter, Minister Peretz explains that on the eve of the establishment of the government, the prime minister and the vice prime minister had promised that the Interior and Religious Affairs portfolios would be distributed between the National Religious Party [NRP] and SHAS within 1 month. Over 2 and 1/2 months have elapsed now and nothing has been done. Minister Peretz further writes that every party in the coalition received its share and the NRP received more than its share. Finally, SHAS was promised the Interior portfolio but it turned out that this portfolio would be stripped of all real authority.

Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer points out that Minister Peretz' resignation will go into effect only next week, 48 hours after it has been submitted to the Cabinet.

Commitments to Likud Invalid

TA111813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Minister Yitzhaq Peretz has said that all commitments made by SHAS to the Likud are no longer valid. Peretz told this to our political correspondent a short time after he submitted his letter of resignation to the prime minister. The resignation will go into effect next week.

Sason: Talk With Egypt's Foreign Minister 'Helpful'

TA111256 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1244 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Moshe Sason, Israel's ambassador in Cairo, met with Egypt's foreign minister today, 2 days after meeting with Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali. After the meeting Sason said that the talk was helpful. It dealt with ways to solve the differences between the two countries, including the Tabah issue. Ambassador Sason returned to Cairo after consultations in Jerusalem.

Government, Foreign Ministry Differ on Egypt

TA120903 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 12 Dec 84 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Text] There is a strong sense of optimism in top government circles here that relations with Egypt will soon dramatically improve.

They expect the early visit here of a special envoy from President Husni Mubarak (recently confirmed publicly by Cairo) and, subsequently, substantive progress towards a thaw in the "cold peace."

The Foreign Ministry, however, doesn't seem to share this prognosis. Several highly placed sources in the ministry said yesterday they knew of no grounds for particular optimism regarding the Israel-Egypt relationship at this time. The Foreign Ministry sources offered a more dour assesment, following meetings this week between Israeli Ambassador Moshe Sason and the Egyptian prime minister and foreign minister.

The Foreign Ministry sources said "nothing special" had emerged from the envoy's conversation with Premier Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid on the vexed issue of Tabah or on other matters. They said Cairo was still positing the cession of Tabah, the IDF's withdrawal from Lebanon and progress on the Palestinian problem as the three conditions for the return of an Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv and a summit meeting between Mubarak and Premier Shim'on Peres.

But the government circles quoted above are confident that the Tabah issue is resolvable — that despite hard line public rhetoric, the Egyptians are amenable to Israeli proposals for a joint administration of the disputed area while legal arbitration continues.

These circles hope for a broad package of improvements in the Egyptian-Israeli relationship which would include a summit, the resolution of the Tabah problem, the return of the Egyptian ambassador, and the resumption of trade and cultural ties.

These government circles do not disclose that specifics unpub lished or back channel contacts between Cairo and Jerusalem exist, but they strongly imply that such a dialogue is underway. They say that Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is kept informed of developments, as are key U.S. Administration policymakers in Washington.

Foreign Ministry Condemns Craxi-'Arafat Meeting

TA111844 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Israel has condemned last week's meeting in Tunis between Italian Prime minister Bettino Craxi and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said such meetings do not advance hopes for a speedy resumption of the peace process. Prime Minister Peres and Foreign Minister Shamir are scheduled to visit Rome next month.

Crossing Point Reopened; Coastal Road Threatened

TA120711 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] The IDF yesterday reopened the crossing in Jubb Jannin in the Al-Biqa' to traffic, and the Syrian Army has approved the transfer of goods as well. IDF officers expect that approximately 600 people will use the crossing daily. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the Batir al-Shuf crossing will be closed once snowfalls begin, and if the Druze foil the Lebanese Government's plan to open the coastal road to traffic, southern Lebanon will be cut off from the north.

IDF sources believe that the Druze in the Al-Kharrub area have dozens of tanks and artillery weapons, and are waiting for an opportunity to occupy the part of the coastal road north of Sidon which is populated by Christians. Our correspondent has learned that Christian residents have fled to Sidon as a result of the heavy shelling in the Al-Kharrub area, but the IDF does not know if most of the Christians in the Al-Kharrub area have left the region.

Relations With U.S., France Analyzed

TA111309 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 11 Dec 84 p 8

[Shmu'el Segev commentary: "Friendship — Not a Change of Direction"]

[Text] The successful visit of Prime Minister Shim'on Peres to France and the new leaf turned over in Jerusalem-Paris relations increased Israel's maneuvering room in the international arena and added new channels of action. But we must not let this success distort the picture as a whole: The United States remains the main driving force in the Middle East, and Israel's complete dependence on U.S. military and economic aid precludes any "changes of direction" in Israel's foreign policy in the foreseeable future.

This realistic picture is an unavoidable result of the change in Israel's position in the last 30 years. When Shim'on Peres traveled to France for the first time in the early fifties as Ben-Gurion's delegate, Israel enjoyed a certain amount of independence of action in the international arena. President Eisenhower's first year in office (1953) was characterized by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles' attempt to force the Arab countries, including Egypt and Iraq, to adhere to the West's anti-Soviet policy of encirclement. When the "Baghdad Pact" was formed in February 1955, despite Egypt's objections, Israel and France were on the other side of the barricade and showed active resistance to the U.S. initiative. Israel was still equipped with British weapons and, due to U.S. opposition to the direct supply of weapons to Israel, Ben-Gurion appealed to France for support; through its help he preserved the Middle East Balance of power. The climax of this policy was during the October 1956 Sinai campaign when Israel — together with France and Britain — declared war on Egypt, completely ignoring the United States. This ability to maintain an independent foreign policy was, among other things, the result of not being dependent on the United States in the economic sphere. In those days the U.S. Administration did not extend military or economic aid to Israel, and the burden of aiding Israel was shouldered entirely by world Jewry.

Since the Yom Kippur war, however, there has been a dramatic change in Israel's economic situation. The expenses of the war and the need to rehabilitate hastily the IDF's power minimized the Jewish contribution in the sum total of U.S. aid. Israel's dependence on the U.S. Government has become complete. This dependence gradually reduced Israel's maneuvering room in the international arena and cancelled the possibility of carrying out independent political initiatives. An Israeli stand against a U.S. initiative such as that taken against the "Baghdad Pact" in the spring of 1955 is simply inconceivable today.

Obviously, despite this dependence Israel has not completely lost its ability to maintain an independent foreign policy. But this policy, even if not identical with U.S. policy, must coincide with U.S. considerations in the Middle East.

The renewal of the friendship with France and the closer political, scientific, and technological cooperation with it do not deviate from U.S. strategy and, in fact, even complement it. The United States has never hesitated about accepting French assistance in order to advance its strategic interests worldwide.

This was the background to the prime minister's visit to Paris and his impressive achievement there. It is true that President Mitterrand himself made the opening move in visiting Israel soon after being elected president of France. That was, however, a demonstration of his personal friendship toward Israel, indicated by various principles in his policy. The fabric of relations which has meanwhile developed between Jerusalem and Paris has also been cold and limited, lacking the personal dimension.

To Shim'on Peres' credit, it should be said that he added the ideological dimension and personal warmth to these relations. Of all Israel's contemporary leaders, none would have received a reception as impressive as that awarded Shim'on Peres.

This stems not only from the deep and long-time personal friendship between him and Mitterrand, but also from the fact that Peres is the true architect of Israeli-French friendship.

If Ben-Gurion was the one who initiated the idea, Peres was the one who gave it substance and who built the relations in various spheres.

From a comprehensive, international point of view, the situation has changed and the two countries — France and Israel — are aware of the limitations of their power and know the limits of their friendship.

However, in a period when Israel is not flooded by displays of friendship, the renewal of the friendship with France constitutes a considerable personal achievement for Shim'on Peres.

Civilian Administration To Organize Employment
TA111214 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 11 Dec 84 p 3

[Report by correspondent in Jerusalem Tuva Tzimuqi]

[Text] The Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza will be able to participate in government-initiated jobs which will be organized for them by the Civilian Administration in the territories, should unemployment grow in an alarming manner. An agreement on this has been reached in the last few days in Defense Ministry discussions between the coordinator of activities in the territories and representatives of the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry.

Shlomo Amir, the labor and social affairs minister's aide for employment in Judaea and Samaria, yesterday said that the money deducted throughout the years from the salaries of Judaea and Samaria workers employed in Israeli factories will be used as an unemployment fund to finance government-initiated jobs. In the discussion which took place in the Defense Ministry, it has been decided that Judaea and Samaria Arabs will be able to register in one of the 30 employment agencies in the territories. If there will be no alternative work [line dropped in original] renovation of buildings in the territories, paving roads, agriculture, and irrigation.

Further Reportage on Franco-African Summit

CMRN Delegation Represents Conte

AB111230 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0645 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] After participating in the inaugural ceremony of Zaires President Mobutu Sese Seko in Kinshasa, and after paying a 24-hour visit to Nairobi, the delegation of the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN] arrived in the Burundian capital on Sunday to represent Colonel Lansana Conte at the French-African summit, which opens in Bujumbura today at 1300 GMT.

Habre Arrives, Talks to Press

AB111033 Lagos NAN in English 0949 GMT 11 Dec 84

[By Jamens Bello]

[Text] Bujumbura, Dec 10 (NAN) — President Hissein Habre of Chad said today in Bujumbura, Burundi, that he was optimistic that "sooner or later" there would be a "peaceful solution" in the country's 18-year-old conflict. Speaking to newsmen at the Bujumbura airport, Mr Habre said, however, that the continued occupation of the northern part of the country by Libyan forces was making the situation "even difficult and serious."

President Habre arrived in Burundi aboard a military C-130 aircraft to join other Francophone African leaders for the 11th summit of Franco-African heads of state beginning in Bujumbura tomorrow.

The Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who had arrived earlier for the conference, appealed to all warring factions in Chad to place the interest of the people above their personal interests and accept national reconcilation. The Chadian situation is expected to be one of the major issues to be discussed at the summit.

Nguema Discusses Summit Issues

AB111216 Dakar PANA in French 1048 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 11 Dec (AZAP/PANA) — Equatrorial Guinea head of state Teodoro Obiang Nguema supports the idea of Marshal Mobutu of Zaire for the creation of a league of black African states and hopes for a clear proposal that would enable one to determine the possibilities of creating an organization of black African countries.

President Obiang Nguema, who gave these indications to the Zairian press on Monday during a stopover in Kinshasa en route for Bujumbura to take part in the French-African summit conference, specified that the Equatorial Guinea Government would spare no effort to start a dialogue capable of clarifying certain points relating to this proposal.

Talking about the summit conference of French and African heads of state, the Equatorial Guinea statesman said that problems of cooperation and of the development of the African countries, and particularly the North-South dialogue, would be the main topics for discussion in Bujumbura.

Colonel Nguema stressed that France is one of the Western bloc states supporting the African countries, adding that the Bujumbura summit should enable the strengthening of understanding between France and the African states as far as development is concerned. The African authorities will also examine current world problems during the Bujumbura conference, he concluded.

Burundi Official Discusses Summit

AB111138 Dakar PANA in French 1055 GMT 10 Dec 84

[Text] Bujumbura, 11 Dec (ABP-BUR/PANA) — Explaining the atmosphere prevailing around the 11th French-African summit conference, which will open in Bujumbura on Tuesday, Burundi Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Laurent Nzeyimana — who is the spokesman for the summit — on Monday evening estimated that 35 delegations, including 19 heads of state and government and one prime minister, will take part in the conference. According to the Burundi foreign minister, the member countries have shown the interest they attach to the conference of heads of state of France and Africa.

Concerning the program of the conference, he stated that the summit "traditionally consists of an exchange of views on problems of interest to Africa and, of course, to France." He specified that particular emphasis would be placed on economic problems, just as it was at the recent OAU summit, because of the present economic situation.

The Burundi minister also affirmed that the problem of Chad will be discussed. The path of conciliation must become a reality, he said. About Burundi's position concerning the occupation of northern Chad, he specified that he would first wait for Chad to declare its position to the conference tomorrow.

Bagaza Address Opens Summit

AB112325 Dakar PANA in French 1830 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Exerpt] Bujumbura, 11 Dec (ABP-BUR/PANA) Colonel Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, president of the Republic of Burundi, today solemnly opened in Bujumbura the 11th summit of heads of state of Africa and France in the presence of heads of state from France, Equatorial Guinea, Chad, CAR, Senegal, Congo, Comoro, Seychelles, Mauritania, Sao Tome and Principe, Djibouti, Somalia, Rwanda, Mali, Gabon, Zaire, and prime ministers from Niger and Mauritius, as well as many delegates and observers.

In his opening speech, President Bagaza said that "this conference, far from constituting a suspisciously closed club composed of politically monolithic countries, although united by the use of a common language, is widely open to observers." The Burundian president then expressed his concern over a certain number of wars, conflicts, and tensions throughout the world, notably in the Middle East, the Persian Gulf, in Southeast Asia, and Central America. According to President Bagaza, these conflicts "violate unanimously recognized principles dealing with

freedom, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of states."

As far as Africa is concerned, President Bagaza specifically recalled the Chadian issue and called for "an end to hostilities, respect for territorial integrity, an end to external interference, negotiations, and national reconciliation between Chadians" who, he said, are the only ones entitled to define the destiny of their country.

On Western Sahara, he said that all negotiations free of passion and which could be useful should be encouraged and stimulated. He also called on the countries that have either temporarily suspended their membership or left the OAU to reconsider their stand. He said that "to stay within the OAU is to submit to the principle of Africa for Africans, to seek solutions to African problems within an African framework."

He warned against the great disillusion of what "one hardly dares to call the third decade of development: the more pronounced division of the world into two groups destined to become antagonists if we are not careful. On one hand there is a minority of the people privileged by well-being, represented by the industrialized nations and a handful of Third World countries that have soared economically, and on the other hand by most of humanity, which is destined to live in misery in all its forms: malnutrition and famine, lack of education, health care, housing, and employment."

President Bagaza also referred to the invading phenomenon of natural disasters and desert encroachment in Africa. He suggested making the people more responsible by changing their behavior and by engaging in concerted national, regional, and international action.

Economically, President Bagaza underlined that "in spite of the economic revival of the major industrialized nations, which is confirmed by an improvement in productivity and a reduction in the inflation rate, the situation in the developing countries remains preoccupying." He pointed out that those among these developing countries that are expected to experience some growth in 1984, fall in the small group of oil-producing countries or of those with extra revenue.

"The majority of Third World countries," he said, "will continue to experience the negative effects of the international environment characterized by stagnation, that is, the fall in economic growth, budgetary difficulties, poor balance of payments, lack of employment, lack of savings and investment, and all of which will be aggravated by the burden of indebtedness."

Mitterrand Addresses Summit Leaders

AB111507 Paris AFP in English 1442 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Bujumbura, Dec 11 (AFP) — France will "fully and immediately" respect existing military agreements with African countries, French President Francois Mitterrand said here at the opening of a 38-nation Franco-African summit, which is expected to be dominated by the situation in Chad. France has no formal defence treaty with Chad but remains ready to intervene militarily in Africa under existing agreements that might demand such action, Mr Mitterrand said in a brief reference to the Chadian conflict. "No aggression will be tolerated," he added.

Mr Mitterrand made no direct reference to reports that Libya still has troops in the north of Chad in contravention of the September 16 Franco-Libyan withdrawal agreement. He added that French troops had intervened in Chad last year because they were called upon by the Chadian Government to counter a Libyan-backed rebel advance.

The Chadian Government of President Hissein Habre and his supporters among African leaders here fear France might be prepared in effect to accept a de facto partition of the north central African country as a result of the continued Libyan occupation in the north. France has signed defence agreements with Ivory Coast, Gabon, Senegal, Djibouti, the Central African Republic, and the Indian Ocean island state of Comoros.

Earlier in his opening speech, Mr Mitterrand said French economic development policy in favor of Africa and the Third World in general was not only "our duty, but my choice." He said France was ready not only to support the creation of a "special fund for Africa," but that there was already a contribution of 500 million French francs ($55 million) written into the French budget. He further suggested the creation in Paris of an "Africa House" where future Franco-African summit meetings could take place. Africa "can count on France's friendship and help," Mr Mitterrand said in conclusion.

The 2-day summit here is being attended by delegations from 37 African nations, of which 17, mostly former French colonies, are represented by their heads of state. However, the presidents of two key former French colonies — Felix Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast and Seyni Kountche of Niger — are not present, and a third, Burkina Faso (formerly Upper Volta) is not represented at all.

Heads of state attending the summit include Theodoro Obiang Nguema of Equatorial Guinea, Hissein Habre (Chad), Abdou Diouf (Senegal), Andre Kolingba (Central African Republic), Denis Sassou Nguesso (Congo), Ahmed Abdallah (Comoros), France-Albert Rene (Seychelles), and Mohamed Kouna Ould Haydala (Mauritania).

Other leaders present were Hassan Gouled Aptidon (Djibouti), Mohammed Siad Barre (Somalia), Juvenal Habyarimana (Rwanda), Moussa Traore (Mali), Omar Bongo (Gabon), Mobutu Sese Seko (Zaire), Jean-Baptiste Bagaza (Burundi), and Mauritius' premier, Jugnaut Anerood. Togo's president, Gnassingbe Eyadema, was due to arrive here later today.

In opening today's summit session, Burundi President Colonel Jean-Baptiste Bagaza welcomed the fact that foreign troops were being withdrawn from Chad, "despite some inevitable vacillation," and then turned to the African continent's formidable economic problems. "Most Third World countries will continue to suffer the effects of the international environment" due to stagnation, worsening terms of trade, budget problems, falling unemployment, and growing debt, he said. He called for a

thorough review of economic, trade, and monetary relations between the developed and developing countries and backed calls for the creation of a special development fund for Africa.

Futher on Mitterrand Address

LD111646 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Excerpts] The 11th Franco-African summit opened a few hours ago in the Congress Palace of Bujumbura above the shores of Lake Tanganyka, in the capital of Burundi. As customary, President Bagaza first of all delivered a speech of welcome this morning. Then it was the turn of President Mitterrand. Well now, two strong passages from his speech: first of all the issue of security, which he had, in fact, kept for the end:

[Begin Mitterrand recording] I am not an African and it is not up to me to lay down the law on your continent, to take sides in the quarrels that may separate you, or to conceive ready-made solutions to your problems. But it is up to me to tell you how much and why France gives and will continue to give its support, including its military support.

When contract demands it, but also in other circumstances, France has signed military defense agreements with certain African countries. These agreements are and will be respected integrally and immediately. No aggression will be tolerated. But France does not have agreements with everyone. For example, there are none where we have, nevertheless, intervened: in Chad, at the urgent demand of the government of that country, because we remain faithful to a global concept of equilibrium in Africa, and, in particular, let me say it, of black Africa. [end recording]

The essential part of the French president's speech was in fact devoted this morning to economic issues, which, therefore, appear to him, in spite of everything that has been said or written for the last few days, to be the main priority. Listen to what was said about this topic by the head of state of France this morning, then, in front of his African colleagues:

[Begin Mitterrand recording] I would like to launch a new appeal to all the industrialized nations to take a greater part in the struggle for development and, therefore, for peace. France is and will be the world's indefatigable advocate of development at all international forums. It will do this for the South, but also in the interest of the North. These countries, South or North, will not overcome their own crises unless they know how to understand where (?the men), the work, the production (?of men) are to be found.

In the face of the challenge of the day, the only answer is in union, work, [word indistinct] of fratricidal quarrels. It is at that price that the states of Africa will occupy fully the place that is theirs in the bosom of the international community. In order to arrive at it they may count on the friendship and on the help of France. [end recording]

So much for the speech. Now, Charles (Lescot), you are on the phone from Bujumbura. You have, of course, followed this opening session. What are the general impressions that emerge from it Charles?

[Lescot] Well, as we have already said, the economy occupied a very, very, big place in the two speeches we heard this morning. That is not to say that the discussions of this afternoon and tomorrow morning, in camera, or the discussions between heads of state — bilateral or trilateral, if you like — will not deal further with security, which nevertheless greatly preoccupies certain of the delegations present.

Now then, in order: The host, President Bagaza, placed the stress on the African economy, on the difficulties of development, on debt, on drought. He spoke very little about politics, one may say not at all, except to say that in Chad, Burundi would like national reconciliation to [words indistinct]. Francois Mitterrand, as you have heard already — his two major speeches devoted almost 20 minutes to the if I may put it like that, and 2 minutes to security. [as heard] The economic part was extremely well backed up, well developed, if you like, full of figures. For example, the president quoted several figures that [words indistinct] on the annual [word indistinct] of the big specialists.

He spoke about Lome, which, for the second time, has been renewed by the European Community-African, Carribean, Pacific convention, and described it as a symbol of exemplary cooperation [words indistinct]. As for Africa's debt, President Francois Mitterrand took up an idea that has already been expressed: Africa, in fact, is not sufficiently in debt in order to really concern the big bankers of this world. They are concerned by debt when it is very big, as in Latin America.

He proposed three points that should be followed in development: first of all, the effectiveness of aid and its use; then structural adjustment on the spot — that is to say that local economies must adapt to the new realities; and finally, he expressed France's support for the special fund for Africa and proposed helping the countries with drought, where France has already donated 500 million francs.

Right, as for politics, you have heard the essential part. Let us simply note that the president of the republic paid homage to the six founder states of this Franco-African summit. That is a way, if you like, of emphasizing the current thinking that the extension to the Anglophones is not a good thing. He paid homage to that hard kernel of Francophones. He ended with remarks on the need for every country to be able, by itself, to defend its own sovereignty; without mentioning any names, everyone was thinking of Chad.

Chadian Ambassador Comments

AB111540 Paris AFP in French 1302 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Paris, 11 Dec (AFP) — According to the Chadian ambassador in Paris, Ahmad Allam-mi, France will not be blamed for the present situation in Chad at the 11th French-African summit, which began in Bujumbura on Tuesday. "I do not believe that the Africans will seize the opportunity at the French-African summit to try France," Mr Allam-mi said on Tuesday on Radio Monte Carlo. "It will be a summit where Hissein Habre, the

Chadian president, will seek solidarity in the fight against Libyan aggression. It is certain that Africa will not accept the existing situation in Chad that has been imposed by Libya," the ambassador went on to say.

"President Habre," Mr Allam-mi added, "will certainly tell Mr Mitterrand that Chadian territory has been violated and that there is a presence that is not dissuasive, as one has the tendency of saying, but offensive, because 6,000 men on 550,000 square kilometers of land are not in Africa as tourists."

"It is France," the ambassador added, "which directly negotiated the withdrawal agreement with Libya without including us and not even its African allies." "France left on its own, so France can return to Chad at any moment."

'Secret' French-Libyan Deal Denied

AB111700 Paris AFP in French 1556 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Bujumbura, 11 Dec (AFP) — French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas today in Bujumbura denied the existence of a "secret clause" in the 16 September Franco-Libyan agreement — a clause according to which France has accepted the occupation of northern Chad by Libya. In a communique, Mr Dumas asserted that the "rumors" in which this clause is being mentioned "are baseless."

"I officially deny this assertion that the French Government allegedly agreed that Libyan troops should be maintained in northern Chad," the French external relations minister declared. In Ndjamena over the past few days, Chadian circles speak of their fear of the existence of such a "secret clause" establishing the partitioning of Chad in the agreement on the withdrawal of the French and Libyan troops from Chad.

Within the French delegation's entourage, it was observed today that the circulation of these rumors "was a mere fantasy" and also that it has "suddenly come about" just at the time of the opening of the Bujumbura Franco-African summit.

Some Leaders Concerned on Chad

AB112050 Paris AFP in French 1656 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Excerpts] Bujumbura, 11 Dec (AFP) — Right from the opening session of the Franco-African summit in Bujumbura (Burundi), President Francois Mitterrand sought to reassure his African partners by asserting that France will not tolerate "any aggression" against them. By Tuesday afternoon it was still not certain whether President Mitterrand's speech would alleviate the concern of some African leaders. The degree of their concern for Chad depends on whether or not they are immediate neighors of that country.

President Hissein Habre, who was interviewed by AFP while coming out of the Congress Palace in Bujumbura, declined to comment but gave only a slight smile and indicated that he would "speak later."

On his part, [Chadian] Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou on Monday evening criticized a certain indifference on the part of his partners. "If people are insensitive to our sufferings, what else can we do but fight," he said.

First Day Focuses on Chad

LD112342 Paris International Service in French 2300 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] The work of the Bujumbura Franco-African summit will be resumed tomorrow morning. The 37 delegations present in Burundi today spoke mostly of Chad's future. Francois Mitterrand said he was categorically rejecting any idea of a partition of Chad territory: French military capabilities can still be mobilized within a few hours, he stated. The head of the French state believes without France and its Zaire allies Chad would have been lost, the legal government swept out of office and the occupation by Libya would have been total.

Gabonese President Omar Bongo expressed willingness to meet Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to speed up the negotiations. It must also be noted that the Zaire head of state, President Mobutu, insisted that a pledge on the Chad affair should be taken at the end of the Franco-African summit.

ALGERIA

USSR's Marshal Gorshkov Visits Naval Base

LD112004 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Marshal Gorshkov, Soviet deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the Navy, continues his visit to our country at the head of a military delegation. Today he went to Jijel where he visited the naval base.

LIBYA

Further on Visit by Malaysian Prime Minister

Talks With Al-Qadhdhafi

BK111257 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed has held unscheduled talks with Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Tripoli. Also present at the talks were the minister of foreign affairs, Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen, and Agriculture Minister Mr Anwar Ibrahim. The prime minister told Malaysian newsmen that Libyan-Malaysian relations, international affairs, security of the Islamic countries, and the Dakwah [Islamic missionary] movement in Malaysia were discussed during the one-and-a-half hour meeting.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said President al-Qadhdhafi expressed interest in Southeast Asia in particular. According to the joint commission meeting at the Libyan capital, he said Malaysia will soon sign an agreement to set up a joint holding company in Kuala Lumpur. The company will be responsible for promoting trade, investment, and other commercial activities in both countries. Our correspondent Mokhtar Kadir says the prime minister later met Malaysian students studying in Tripoli.

Economic Cooperation Agreement Signed

LD111844 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] An agreement on economic and social cooperation between the Jamahiriyah and Malaysia was signed this morning at the guest palace in Tripoli at the conclusion of the visit of Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed, Malaysian prime minister and defense minister. The minutes of the agreement, which were signed by Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison on the Libyan side, and by Brother Ahmad Rithauddeen, Malaysian foreign affairs minister on the Malaysian side, provides for cooperation in the political, economic, and social fields.

The minutes of the agreement underline the importance of participation in the meetings and conferences held in either of the two countries, the strengthening of trade and industrial relations, mutual benefits from raw materials and cooperation between oil establishments in the two countries, and the intensification of political, cultural, economic, scientific, information-linked, technical, and youth-related cooperation between the two countries so as to secure the consolidation of the relations existing between the two fraternal peoples.

The minutes of the agreement also provide for cooperation in the domain of spreading Islam throughout the world, the creation of holdings and a number of jointly-owned companies in the domain of agriculture, timber, oil, and rubber industries and other economic fields.

Holds Press Conference

LD111852 Tripoli JANA in English 1451 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Awal 19, December 11, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY Dr Mahathir Mohamed, prime minister and minister of defence of Malaysia held early today at his residence in Tripoli a press conference. He spoke about the relations between the Jamahiryah and Malaysia and results of his visit to the Jamahiryah and the situation in the Arab region.

About the Libyan Arab-Malaysian relations, Dr Mahathir said "I foresee a bright future for the Libyan-Malaysian relations. I came to the Jamahiriyah on this visit to hear and see with my own eyes what is going on in this sisterly country. We have reached with our brothers in the Jamahiriyah to positive [words indistinct] between the two countries in different fields."

He added that "Malaysia and the Jamahiriyah are working towards making Islam an effective force in the world and the chances of meeting each other give us a big impetus to achieve the ambitions of Islam."

He referred to the stand of this country on the Arab cause and affirmed that his country's stand focuses on the need of liberating the occupied Arab territories.

He reaffirmed the need for the unity of the Palestinian [words indistinct] for achieving the desired aim which is the liberation of Palestine and pointed out that his country highly appraises all efforts exerted in the [words indistinct] for the return of the Arabs' right.

He concluded his press conference by referring to the Iraqi-Iranian war and said his country calls for collaboration of Islamic efforts to put an end to this bloody conflict between brothers.

Leaves Tripoli 11 Dec

LD111858 Tripoli JANA in English 1443 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Awal 19, December 11, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Dr Mahathir Mohamed, prime minister and minister of defence of Malaysia, and accompanied delegation left Tripoli early today. Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud had headed the delegation which saw the Malaysian premier off.

Several members of the General People's Committee, secretary of the Islamic Call Society, a number of officers of Armed Forces

and heads of diplomatic messions to the Jamahiriyah also took part in the farewell reception.

Joint Communique Issued

LD112154 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] A joint Libyan Arab-Malaysian communique was issued today in Tripoli and Kuala Lumpur at the end of the visit of Dr Mohamed bin Mahathir, prime minister and defense minister of Malaysia. The communique explained that the brother leader of the revolution received the guest and a dialogue was held between them which covered all aspects of Third World theory and its objectives of the elimination of all forms of tyranny, exploitation, and domination and the liberation of the needs of man to enable him to own his authority, wealth, and weapons through the implementation of direct democracy, the people's authority, and the administration of its affairs through popular conferences and committees.

The brother leader acquainted the great guest with the efforts made by the Jamahiriyah for the sake of Arab unity and the establishment of the Arab-African union between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and Morocco. Talks were held between Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Brother Dr Mohamed bin Mahathir, prime minister of Malaysia, with the participation, on the Libyan Arab side, of Brothers Abu Zayd Umar Durdah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation; Musa Abu Furaywah, secretary of the General People's Committee for the Economy and Light Industry; Dr Muhammad Ahmad ash-Sharif, secretary of the Islamic Call Society; and Ahmad Shahati, secretary of the International Center for the Studies and Research of the Green Book.

On the Malaysian side, Ahmad Rithauddeen, foreign minister; Anwar Ibrahim, minister of agriculture; Yusof Nor, deputy minister at the prime minister's office; Tan Sri Zain, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry; Dato Ghazali Seth, chief of the general staff; Dato Ahmad Yusof, special adviser to the prime minister; and Mohamad Nor Azan, political secretary to the prime minister, participated.

Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud acquainted the prime minister of Malaysia with the achievements of the Libyan people in the political, economic, and social fields under the leadership of the Great 1 September Revolution. Dr Mahathir Mohamed, prime minister of Malaysia, acquainted Brother Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud of the economic and social progress in Malaysia. Talks were held between the two countries on bilateral relations and regional and international issues of common interest.

The communique said that the Libyan Arab side noted that the visit of the prime minister of Malaysia has been a prominent mark in the development of the relations of friendship and fraternity between the two Muslim countries. Both sides agreed to consolidate their efforts in the economic and cultural fields and in the field of the activation of trade and industrial relations. And in implementation of this, the joint Libyan Arab-Malaysian committee met during the visit. Agreements were signed designed to increase bilateral relations and cooperation in the fields of trade, industry, technical cooperation, and training. The agreement signed in 1978 on the establishment of a Libyan-Malaysian holding company was ratified.

The Malaysian side expressed appreciation for the adoption by the Jamahiriyah of the International Islamic University in Malaysia. Both sides confirmed the active role of Islam in the achievement of the material and moral progress of the Islamic peoples and agreed to work for the consolidation of the unity of Muslims all over the world. Both sides undertook to strengthen and consolidate the role of the Islamic Conference Organization for the achievement of the objectives for which it was set up. They confirmed once again their call for peace and stability in the Mediterranean, Middle East, and Southeast Asia. They confirmed that just and lasting peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved unless the Palestinians recover legitimate and inalienable rights, represented in the recovery of all its national soil and its right to establish its independent state on its soil, and the complete and unconditional withdrawal of all the Zionist forces from the occupied Arab territories.

Both sides condemned the expansionist policies of the racist Zionist enemy and its repeated violations of the freedom of the Lebanese soil and its continued occupation of the Lebanese territories. Both sides expressed their adherence to the principles of the UN, the OAU, and the Nonaligned Movement, and condemned the policy of the racist regime in South Africa and called for the people of South Africa, being the majority, to assume authority in its land. They called for the need for the people of Namibia to acquire independence and denounce the racist occupation of Namibia. Both sides confirmed the need for cooperation between developing countries at the bilateral, regional, and the 77 Group levels in order to continue the South-South dialogue and make it succeed.

Arab People's Congress Seminar Concludes

LD111815 Tripoli JANA in English 1454 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Rabi Awal, 11 Dec JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The nationalist seminar organised by the Arab People's Congress concluded its meeting here yesterday evening.

The seminar which was held to commemorate the 7th anniversary of the establishment of the Arab People's Congress issued a final communique stressing the necessity of nationalist masses' struggle to confront the policies of surrender which have necessitated the birth of the A.P.C. amidst the conflict against Sadat's [word indistinct] and the Camp David policy of capitulation which concentrates its aims towards destroying nationalist existence and disuniting the will of the Arab nation.

The communique further said that the birth of the A.P.C. was a genuine expression of the Arab masses' struggle to unite the nationalist struggle through a democratic, progressive popular and nationalist means, embodying the militant tendency of the nationalist liberation movement. Participants also stressed that the A.P.C. and its permanent secretariat have realised significant progress, including especially the continuation of the A.P.C.'s

struggle as a progressive popular nationalist institution despite the circumstances which negatively affect the Arab liberation movement.

They further announced the consolidation of the alliance between the forces of the Arab nationalist liberation movement within the framework of the A.P.C., thus entrenching a new example of the unity of the liberation movement in order to build a progressive nationalist popular front, based on democratic relations which consolidate the struggle of the Arab masses towards realising their nationalist goals.

In conclusion, the communique said that participants, in the seminar, including representatives of political organisations and parties, liberation movements, popular and professional unions and leagues, stress the need for uniting the intellectual and political effort of the A.P.C. and its institutions, to interact within the [word indistinct] work of the Arab reality, and to synthesise the political vision, translated by its cultural and political efficacy, through its permanent secretariat and its various bodies.

Participants also stress the need for working through collective responsibility towards positive interaction with these institutions, completing their organisational establishment and granting all means of material and moral help to boost and unite their progressive nationalist popular efforts so as to realise the objectives of the Arab nation, including [word indistinct] and unity and to achieve social progress.

Several recommendations and resolutions were also issued at the end of the seminar, especially concentrating on the need to [word indistinct] the setting up of the A.P.C. institutions to enable them to work effectively as well as the need to promote its activities so as to reach all levels of the Arab people. The importance of the role of the Nationalist Council for Arab Culture and that of the International Secretariat for Solidarity With the Arab People and their main cause, Palestine, was also stressed together with the need to hold a number of seminars and meetings, to deepen political dialogue in order to bring together the political vision of the A.P.C. and to remain committed to and implement its decisions.

U.S. Accused of Making Plans for Aggression

LD120039 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The imperialist United States tries to justify its aggressive actions against peaceful peoples by claiming that such actions are aimed at bringing back stability to various parts of the world by combating international terror and similar silly justifications which cannot be believed even by the naive.

Immediately after his second victory in the U.S. elections, terrorist Reagan boastfully announced that this time he had three definite tasks: to solve the Middle East problem, to reinstate American influence in Central America, and to bring back stability and order to North Africa. It is clear from this statement that the imperialist United States means to use certain states in these regions in order to bring back American influence to them, because it is impossible, of course, for America to achieve these three aggressive actions without dealing a treacherous blow to the progressive and revolutionary states which obstruct the spread of U.S. hegemony in these regions. These revolutionary states are the Jamahiriyah, Syria, and Nicaragua.

These aggressive threats by Ronald Reagan, which are being repeated daily by his advisors and ministers, are not mere threats aimed at intimidation, they are real threats whose implementation is being prepared by the United States. Yesterday, the Jamahiriyah's representative at the Security Council disclosed that the Reagan administration is making actual preparations for aggression against the Jamahiriyah with the aim of dealing a blow to the people's authority and destroying the civilized achievements which the Libyan Arab people have won with sweat and struggle amid imperialist challenges. Among these preparations is the training of a special force [faylaq] to implement the aggressive plan with the assistance of the U.S. 6th Fleet, whose regular provocations against the Libyan Arab people, in the form of muscle flexing off the Gulf of Sidra, are among the main proofs of the U.S. intention to commit aggression.

The proverb says: I pronounce you guilty by your own words. We not only pronounce the United States guilty on the basis of the statements of its president, his advisors, and ministers, but also on the basis of its actions, preparations, and openly aggressive moves. The terrorist Reagan and his administration should know that the Jamahiriyah is not Grenada; its Arab people are armed and always ready to transform the Gulf of Sidra into a red gulf in defense of its freedom, the people's authority, and civilized achievements.

MAURITANIA

Haydala Leaves for French-African Summit

AB111240 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Excerpt] Lieutenant Colonel Khouna Ould Haydala, CMSN chairman and head of state, left Nouakchott yesterday morning for Bujumbura where he will participate in the 11th conference of heads of state of France and Africa which opens today. The head of state is accompanied by a delegation, including Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, CMSN member and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

Reportage on Coup Ousting President Haydala

Colonel Taya Takes Power

NC121414 Paris AFP in English 1409 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Nouakchott, Dec 12 (AFP) — Mauritanian President Khouna Ould Haydala has been ousted in a coup d'etat, Radio Mauritania said today.

Lieutenant-Colonel Haydala had attended the Franco-African summit in Bujumbura, Burundi, which ended today.

The radio said that former prime minister, Colonel Maaouyia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, had taken power in the coup.

All members of the ruling Military Committee for National Salvation were maintained in their posts, it said.

A nationwide dusk-to-dawn curfew was imposed and all airports were closed to incoming flights, an official communique said.

Communique Announces CMSN "Restructuring"

AB121520 Paris AFP in French 1500 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Nouakchott, 12 Dec (AFP) — Radio Nouakchott announced on Wednesday afternoon that the removal of the Mauritanian head of state, Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, is more of a palace coup than a coup d'etat. Everything was calm in the Mauritanian capital at the time of closure of offices. The inhabitants of Nouakchott, who continued their activities normally after the release of the communique announcing the "restructuring" of the Military Committee for National Salvation (CMSN), the governing body in the country, have begun returning to their homes. Only military reinforcements were seen around public buildings, as well as around the radio and television buildings.

The official communique signed by Colonel Maaouyia Sid Ahmed Ould Taya, new CMSN chairman and head of state, pointed out that "in accordance with the desire of the Army and the supreme interests of the Mauritanian state and people," the CMSN has been restructured.

The only modification, in fact, is the appointment of Col Ould Taya to the chairmanship, replacing Lt Col Ould Haydala, presently in Bujumbura, where he attended the 11th French-African summit. All the other CMSN members, a number of whom are occupying ministerial posts, have retained their posts.

Background on New Leader

AB121555 Paris AFP in French 1513 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Paris, 12 Dec (AFP) — Colonel Maaouyia Sid Ahmed Ould Taya, 41, former prime minister and chief of defense staff, who took over power on Wednesday in Mauritania, was, in the opinion of foreign observers, one of the most upright officers in his country's Army.

Born in Atar (450 kilometers north of Nouakchott) in 1943, he was, at the time of Mauritania's independence in 1960, one of the first officers to be trained in France as an officer of the new Army. In 1976 he became chief of Army staff in charge of operations, before his appointment as commander of the northern region at the time of the Saharan war.

A few months before the Army came into power in July 1978, he was appointed deputy chief of defense staff. After serving as minister of defense from 1978 to March 1979, he became the minister in charge of the affairs of the military committee and acting head of state. He was appointed a major in the National Gendarmerie in June 1979, then chief of defense staff in April 1980. He became prime minister and minister of defense in April 1981 to March 1984. On that date he left the government and was appointed chief of Army staff. He is well known for his integrity and for his lack of political leaning. He has a sound reputation in the Army.

Haydala Leaves Bujumbura Summit

AB121606 Paris AFP in French 1536 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Bujumbura, 12 Dec (AFP) — Lieutenant Colonel Ould Haydala, who was deposed on Wednesday of his post as Mauritanian head of state by Colonel Maaouyia Sid Ahmed Ould Taya, chief of Army staff, left Bujumbura today at 1500 local time (1300 GMT) after participating in the 11th French-African summit which ended at midday.

It is unknown in Bujumbura whether Lt Col Ould Haydala was aware of the recent events in his country and no details were given about his destination.

Country Facing 142,000-Ton Food Deficit

AB101027 Paris AFP in English 0725 GMT 10 Dec 84

[Text] Nouakchott, Dec 10 (AFP) — Drought-stricken Mauritania is facing a 142,000-ton deficit in food grains for the 1984-85 crop year, Captain Mulay Hashem said here Sunday.

Capt Hashem, the commissioner responsible for food supplies, said additional shipments would be sought from traditional donor nations. He conferred with the U.S. and French ambassadors Sunday.

The projected deficit was worse than the previous year's shortfall of 120,000 tons.

MOROCCO

King Receives Arab League Secretary General

LD112329 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] King Hassan II this afternoon received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi in the presence of Foreign Minister Abdelouahid Belkeziz and the king's counselor, Ahmed Reda Guedira.

Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Fes, Praises King

LD112324 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Mr Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived this evening in Fes on a visit to Morocco. The details from radio correspondent Mohamed Lasaoui in Fes:

The Palestinian leader, Mr Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived this evening at Fes airport from Tunisia on a visit to Morocco. He is accompanied by Mr Juwayd

'-Ghusayn, chairman of the board of directors of the Palestinian National Fund and member of the PLO Executive Committee, and Mr Fahd al-Qawasimah, member of the PLO Executive Committee.

On his arrival in Fes, Mr Yasir 'Arafat praised the importance of the valuable message which was sent by HM King Hassan II to the PNC 17th session. He pointed out that he will inform His Majesty King Hassan II about the resultsreached at the end of the PNC meetings, which were held in the Jordanian capital, Amman.

He said to the radio correspondent:

[Begin 'Arafat recording] First of all, I would like to point out that I am grateful, and my brothers and colleagues in the Executive Committee and the PNC are grateful for the valuable message which was sent by his majesty to the PNC and for the great delegation who conveyed the message and participated in the work of the PNC, and the speech of Morocco to the PNC which was delivered by Mr Ahmed Bensudah. This confirms the special and distinguished relation which binds us with the brothers in Morocco. In the name of my brothers I thank his majesty the king for this gesture, and — not only as the king of Morocco, but also as the chairman of the Jerusalem Committee and the Islamic conference.

During this visit, which comes after the ending of the 17th PNC session, i will inform his majesty about the results reached in this session, and also about the issue and the current developments on the Palestinian and Arab and international arenas. Thank you. [end recording]

Awaiting Mr 'Arafat's arrival at the airport was Mr Ahmed Bensoudah, his majesty's adviser; Mr Driss Basri, the minister of interior; Mr Abu Marwan, the PLO representative to Morocco; and the governor of Fes, Mr Moulay Mahdi Alaoui Mrani, and a number of dignitaries.

SUDAN

National Oil Company Established 8 Dec

JN081957 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 8 Dec 84

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Dec (SUNA) — The foundation contract and regulations of the Sudanese National Oil Company Ltd were signed here today.

President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, who witnessed the signing of the contact, made a brief speech in which he affirmed that the company's objectives are in line with Sudan's economic cooperation policy on the Arab and international levels.

He said he has closely followed the establishment of the company and wished it success in its projects.

The contract was signed for Sudan by Dr Sharif al-Tuhami, minister of energy and mining and member of the company's board of directors, and for (SIGMA), a member of the International Triad Consortium, by Saudi businessman 'Adnan Khashuqji.

After signing the contract, Minister al-Tuhami made a speech in which he thanked the president for attending the ceremony, and referred to his ministry's efforts in the development of oil and mineral resources.

He affirmed that his ministry will give every assistance to the company.

In his speech, Khashuqji also thanked the president for attending the ceremony.

He said that the main purpose of establishing this company is to obtain the necessary funds for achieving the Ministry of Energy and Mining's objectives in the oil industry fields.

He said that the company will draw up plans for projects, carry out studies on these plans, link the company to international companies engaged in oil prospecting, and obtain the necessary funds for implementing construction projects in the service of economic development.

The signing ceremony was attended by Baha' al-Din Muhammad Idris, the assistant for presidential affairs; Yusuf Mikha'il, chairman of the company's board of directors; Faruq al-Maqbul, member of the board of directors from the Sudanese side; Al-Rashid Tahir Bakr, the public prosecutor; and Sa'id Yusuf 'Abd al-Mahmud, the commercial registrar at the public prosecutor's office.

It is noteworthy that the company's capital will be in the region of $400 million, and that the company will finance various development projects in the country.

KENYA

President Moi Pardons Ex-Minister Njonjo

AB121131 Paris AFP in English 1127 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Nairobi, Dec 12 (AFP) — Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi today pardoned his disgraced former Constitutional Affairs Minister Charles Njonjo of all the allegations against him which led to a judicial commission of inquiry being appointed in July last year to investigate his activities.

However, Mr Moi said that Mr Njonjo will remain expelled from the ruling Kenya African National Union (KANU) from which he was removed last September together with 15 others.

Mr Njonjo had been accused among other things, of conspiring to topple President Moi with the help of an unnamed foreign country, and also of being party to a conspiracy to overthrow the Seychelles Government of President Albert Rene, using mercenaries.

President Moi who was addressing a military parade here today to mark Kenya's 21st anniverssary of independence, also announced the release of several detainees and other common criminals from prison.

President Moi said that although he had forgiven Mr Njonjo, the former minister would still have to repay money belonging to the association of the disabled he had converted to his personal use. Mr Njonjo will not be allowed to be involved in any political activities in the country.

President Moi said that the commission of inquiry had confirmed all the allegations against Mr Njonjo except that he was party to church prayers in his constituency which had turned into a political meeting and ridiculed the image of the president.

Allegations that Mr Njonjo had arrogated himself the powers of the head of state were also not proved, President Moi said.

TANZANIA

Joint Communique Issued on Visit by Moi

EA101216 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 10 Dec 84

[Text] Before leaving Dar es Salaam this morning for Nairobi, President Moi and his host, President Julius Nyerere, issued a joint communique in which they stressed that they will strive to strengthen and improve bilateral relations between the two countries and East Africa as a whole.

Reviewing the situation in East Africa, the two presidents reiterated their commitment to the Arusha accord and the need to translate the accord into a practical reality for the benefit of the people of East Africa. On the progress made in furthering cooperation in transport and communications, industry, tourism, agriculture, and research, they directed their ministers to complete consultations in all those areas and also in the areas of security and training of personnel.

The two presidents paid tribute to the liberation struggle in southern Africa and reaffirmed their support for the resistance of the peoples of the region against the forces of colonialism and apartheid.

With respect of Namibia, the two presidents regretted that UN Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978, which is the only basis for an international recognition for independence for Namibia, has not been implemented. They categorically rejected the introduction of any other new linkages to the question of Namibian independence.

On the economic situation in Africa, they expressed their full support of the OAU declaration on the critical economic situation in Africa during the recent meeting in Addis Ababa and also supported the establishment of a special emergency fund for drought and famine in Africa.

CAMEROON

French Official on Telecommunications Projects

AB112310 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] President Paul Biya this morning received Louis Mexandeau, French minister delegate to the minister of foreign trade and industrial redeployment for posts and telecommunications, at the Unity Palace. Their discussions centered on cooperation between France and Cameroon in the field of telecommunications and television. After the audience, Mr Mexandeau talked to Therese Francine Mbami about the outcome of their discussions:

[Begin recording] [Mexandeau] We dwelt at length on cooperation between Cameroon and France because of the bonds of friendship that unite our two countries and also because of Cameroon's desire to strengthen its cohesion and to develop its economy. It happens that the sector of which I am in charge in France — telecommunications and television — are sectors that have promising futures in terms of the economic development of the country.

[Mbami] Your Excellency, from the working sessions you held with authorities at the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, equipment you have here is French made, and the need for more of this is increasing everyday because of the expansion of the country's economy. The choice was made by the head of state and, as far as television is concerned, we discussed a certain number of projects that are going to be undertaken. The decision has already been made, and the contract for the transmitting tower has been awarded to a French firm.

Concerning telecommunications, we are discussing space transmission by an earth station. Discussions are at an advanced stage on this. There are also those projects on extensions to telephone exchanges, which are either under construction or will soon be constructed. It seems that because of the great demand, the government is thinking of making massive telephone lone installations in big cities like Yaounde and Douala. [end recording]

It should be remembered that Mr Mexandeau has been visiting Cameroon since 8 December 1984. He arrived in Yaounde last night. He was welcomed in Douala last Saturday by his Cameroonian counterpart, Felix Tonye Mbog. On Sunday, the French minister visited Mount Cameroon and visited posts and telecommunications establishments in Douala yesterday morning.

The two delegations held a working session during which the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications presented its projects for the Littoral Province. They concern: extension works on the space and underground networks of Douala, Ebeya, and Nkonsaba; the extension of the telephone exchange of Ebea; the Douala television transmission network project; the (Depanda) telecommunication center; the Dome transmission station; the Oti station; the renovation of electrical equipment and the problem of spare parts.

Mr Mexandeau is scheduled this afternoon to visit the National Advanced School of Posts and Telecommunications. He will make an inspection tour of Posts and Telecommunications establishments in the city of Yaounde, particularly the telephone exchange station, the (Damengo) earth station, and the (Mbankolo) television station. An important working station is scheduled for tomorrow afternoon.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Mitterrand To Make Official State Visit

AB111108 Paris AFP in French 0815 GMT 11 Dec 84

[By Bernard Loghop]

[Excerpts] Bangui, 11 Dec (AFP) — The Central African Republic, which will receive the visit of President Francois Mitterrand on 12 and 13 December, occupies in Equatorial Africa an important strategic position that has been further enhanced by the conflict in Chad with which it shares a common border of about 900 km. It was from the CAR, the former French colony of Oubangui-Chari, that the French forces of Operation Manta were deployed to Chad in August 1983. It is also on its territory and particularly at Bouar — situated some 400 km northwest of Bangui the capital — that has been deployed part of the French forces from Chad. These forces are now reinforcing the French Elements for Operational Assistance (EFAO), which have been stationed in the CAR for the past 5 years. These forces could again be operational in Chad within a few hours.

The CAR is suffering from the repercussions of the war ravaging its neighbor in the north. Several thousands of Chadian refugees fleeing from the insecurity in the south of the country have crossed its border.

The attack launched in the night of 9 to 10 November by Chadian guerrillas and some CAR opposition elements against the border town of Markounda has compelled the Bangui government to strengthen its control at the Chadian-CAR border in order to check, if not to stop, the arrival of the Chadian refugees. In fact, the CAR Government — which has never been sparing in its support for President Hissein Habre — is not pleased with the massive arrival of the refugees who may include Chadian guerrillas wanting to destabilize it.

On the eve of President Mitterrand's visit, the CAR authorities are particularly watching the large Chadian community (almost 50,000 persons) living in the outskirts of the capital.

CHAD

Armed Forces Announce Flight Over Chad

LD121254 Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] On the situation in Chad the Armed Forces headquarters has just published a communique which really is very laconic, announcing that French planes undertook an observation mission over Chadian territory on Tuesday, in other words, yesterday.

The communique says that this observation mission was in the context — I quote — of observation flights which are usually made over the Republic of Chad.

Bardai Cites French 'Spy Flight'

AB111940 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 11 Dec 84

["Military communique"]

[Text] An extremely serious military offense was committed this morning by France in the airspace of Chad. In fact, the French spy plane, Breguet Atlantic, and four Jaguar planes that were escorting, it flew over the sectors of Fada, Iga, and (Nafara) from (Liba) to (Darda) and over all the regions of the southern part of the country. These planes took off from the CAR.

This provocative action of the French forces is a serious violation of the Franco-Libyan military disengagement agreement. Furthermore, this illegal second patrol made by the French Air Force contradicts all the pacifying public statements that the French leaders have been making. This is marked aggression against the sovereign territory of Chad and its people because the French Government, through its president, admits that it has not concluded any defense agreement with Chad.

In the face of the persistent French intervention in Chad, peace-loving and freedom-minded African states should assume their responsibility and discourage France from playing with fire in Chad.

Bardai Denies Libyan Involvement in Overflight

AB112020 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Communique issued by the office of the president of the Transitional National Union Government in Faya-Abacha on 10 December]

[Text] Last Friday, Radio France International was echoeing some unfounded reports from reactionary FAN circles in Ndjamena of Libyan air incursions over Ito and Monou. To this end, the office of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] hereby formally denies these fantastic allegations. These unfounded assertions have no other objective than to increase the already tense atmosphere and to justify the Ndjamena clique's repeated calls for aid from the French Government.

However, it is necessary to remind international public opinion that if there were any planes flying over Chadian air space, they could have only been the planes of the air squadron of the National Liberation Army [ANL]. Finally, it should be recalled for the umpteenth time that the ANL, the spearhead of the GUNT, possesses an air fleet capable of withstanding any challenge whose competent official authorities [words indistinct] for those who are in doubt of its existence. Issued in Faya-Abacha on 10 December 1984 by the Presidency of the GUNT.

GUNT Claims Air Capability

AB112155 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] This is not the first time the puppet group in Ndjamena has used such methods to intoxicate international public opinion. It will be recalled that 1 or 2 weeks ago, the producers of drama [les metteurs en scene] in Ndjamena were making a lot of noise about a so-called raiding of positions of the FAN cannon fodder near Kalait. In fact, the great noise made by the agents of international imperialism is a mere masquarade aimed at softening the noise made by the boots of the gang of reactionaries around the 16th parallel.

In any case, soldiers of the National Liberation Army [ANL] are ready to prevent and contain any aggressive actions from reactionary forces and will resort to every means at its disposal to foil the military machinations of the puppet enemy. To this end, the air squadron whose establishment within the ANL was announced several months ago by Comrade Goukouni Oueddei, president of the GUNT and head of state, can play a decisive role in any eventuality.

In a recent interview he granted to Radio Bardai, the comrade minister of defense stressed that our squadron is now a reality and expressed delight over the presence of technicians of the former Chadian Armed Forces who were trained over the last few years by countries friendly to the GUNT. According to the comrade minister of defense, the GUNT possesses (?some) air transport planes and fighters. [words indistinct]

Bardai Comments on French-African Summit

AB112015 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] On Tuesday, 11 December, the French-African summit opened in Bujumbura in the presence of representatives and heads of state, including President Francois Mitterrand of France. Meanwhile, the dictator, Marshal Mobutu, who stated categorically that he would not go to the Burundian capital because of prior commitments, has reversed his decision after receiving 5 billion CFA francs in military aid from France.

Other reactionary African heads of state, like President Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast, refuse to take part in this French-African summit to mark their displeasure with the French-Libyan agreement. Meanwhile, the Ivorian head of state recently sent an envoy to Ndjamena for talks between imperialist agents.

There are absentees at Bujumbura, but on the other hand there is a host of representatives of the French and Habre governments. The leader of the Ndjamena group, whose image has been tarnished more than ever by Amnesty International accusations that revealed that members of his personal guard carried out atrocities in the south of the country, is a real black peach among the participants.

According to observers, Chad will be at the center of this French-African summit. Recently in Paris, the heads of state who refused to back France's intervention policy in Chad [words indistinct] to convince it to accept the principle of dialogue between Chadians in order to peacefully solve the Chadian crisis. This time there are many new elements in the Chadian file. In the framework of the procedure for a negotiated solution to the Chadian conflict, there was the Brazzaville preparatory meeting, which was disrupted by the [words indistinct] manipulations of the leader of the Ndjamena group.

[Passage indistinct] with American imperialism and the French leftists, it is naturally up to the socialist French president to remain firm and not play the game of the friends of the [words indistinct]. Yet, it will be recalled that the Franco-African conference has no power to make any decisions about major African problems, which is the duty of the Organization of African Unity.

If participants at the French-African summit were to come to Chad, they would notice that thousands and thousands of Chadians flee from Habre, the criminal ogre, to seek refuge in neighboring countries. Another thing the participants at the Bujumbura French-African summit can do for the Chadian people is to attempt once more to reduce the intransigence of the leader of the Ndjamena group to convince him to negotiate unconditionally with the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] and the other parties in the Chadian conflict. [passage indistinct]

ZAIRE

Commentary Urges Summit Focus on Economy, Security

AB112105 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1128 GMT 11 Dec 84

[AZAP commentary: "Development Through Security"]

[Text] Kinshasa, 11 Dec (AZAP) — The 11th summit conference of heads of state of France and Africa opens today in Bujumbura in the presence of several African leaders, including Field Marshall Mobutu Sese Seko, who is thus making the first trip abroad of his third 7-year term of office, and President Francois Mitterrand, who has just ended a 2-day visit to Zaire.

Nobody is ignorant of the price attached to the independence of the Africans who, liberated from their yoke for more than two decades, each in his own way and according to his fundamental options, has been trying to establish a regime that responds to the legitimate aspirations of their people. In this march toward progress, African countries want to remain united in spite of the differences that may exist in the methods of achieving the aims which they have set for themselves and which take into account the specific priorities of each.

The Bujumbura meeting groups countries which, with the long and tedious negotiations engaged in by the North and the South, have chosen to use dialogue so that together they can search for factors that are likely to pave way for the establishment of a more just, equitable, and mutually advantageous cooperation. Such a meeting demands from each member scrupulous respect for the sovereignty, independence, and traditions of each, and the noninterference in the internal affairs of others. These issues, which constitute the preconditions for a true development as well as their corollaries of security and territorial integrity, will undoubtedly be examined at the conference taking place in the Burundian capital.

In spite of its special status, the conference of heads of state of France and Africa has, up to now, been able to avoid the traps that paralyzed the OAU over a certain period. Its effectiveness probably resides in the fact that, unlike the OAU, it devotes all its attention to economic issues. It is hoped that this orientation will be maintained in the Burundian capital and that discussions of issues that have nothing in common with the preoccupations of Africa to come out of its underdevelopment with the help of its partners such as France will be avoided.

The issue of security in Africa should be accorded greater attention by the heads of state, for it is true that there can be no true development without it. And, if one measures the importance that each participant attaches to the development of his country, one is free to be convinced that the Bujumbura summit is capable of setting up a mechanism of deterrent defense which prevents the repetition of acts of destabilization of some members by other states with expansionist designs. The Republic of Zaire, which has always stressed that it cannot bargain away security and that it is ready to mortgage a part of its sovereignty for the preservation of peace in Africa, can only endorse such initiative.

BURKINA

Burkina Will Not Attend France-Africa Summit

AB111654 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 11 Dec 84

["Communique of the National Council of the Revolution issued in Ouagadougou on 10 December 1984 — read by announcer]

[Text] The Burkinabe people, its government, and the National Council of the Revolution will not be present this year at the France-Africa summit conference which opens today in Bujumbura. Why participate in it last year and not attend this year? Last year, the National Council of the Revolution thought it sincerely understood the embarrassment of the new French political authorities after May 1981 at having to inherit a traditional meeting, the spirit of which it did not share. This is how we interpreted the slight nuance brought into the appellation of this conference which became France-Africa instead of Franco-African summit conference.

Burkina Faso participated in the 1983 conference in order to contribute modestly to increase the critical reflections on the cogency of maintaining such a framework for exchanges of views which, in the opinion of the majority, seems somehow obsolete. We remain convinced that just as we did, other countries preferred to continue to attend the conference again this year in order to make critical contributions. Burkina Faso has a duty to pay tribute to their perseverance and to strongly wish to continue to exchange views with them at any time.

In principle, our position is that the maintenance of such a framework ultimately runs the risk of finding no other justifications than the conscious or unconscious refusal to adapt oneself to history, a refusal to free oneself from the yoke of organizational constraints inherited from the colonial era, which will necessarily affect all the more the existence, position, and role of the OAU as the one and only political framework for unified action in independent Africa.

Our abstention is a manifestation of our political desire to sincerely contribute to the triumph of an idea of economic, social, cultural, and political cooperation between Africa — French-speaking Africa or not — and the rest of the world, which conforms with the concrete development of current realities.

Our aim is to have the political courage to openly break with an old tradition and to search for other ways that are likely to bring about true dialogue among the peoples. The past is not a shameful disease, but it is preferable to cure the future. Therefore, we are making an appeal to all to understand and agree that the maintenance of such a framework becomes objectively and subjectively an obstacle to the need for the transformation of relationships between peoples who legitimately aspire for complementarity in their just struggle against social injustice, hunger, misery, and ignorance. Our people, who are as always open to all forms of sincere and frank dialogue, remain entirely prepared to continue discussions on these issues which, undoubtedly, involve the future of our respective peoples.

Pay Cuts Proposed During 1985 Budget Debate

AB111407 Paris AFP in French 1011 GMT 11 Dec 84

[By AFP special correspondent (Philippe Mudry)]

[Excerpts] Ouagadougou, 11 Dec (AFP) — "(?All senior) public servants, both civilian and military, must voluntarily give up a month's salary and the others a half-month salary." In the very vast and overcrowded hall of the Maison du Peuple in Ouagadougou, a volley of applause saluted the proposal of the speaker, a member of the Revolution Defense Committee [CDR] of the transport department, while other prospective speakers patiently awaited their turn to propose budgetary economies.

How could one eliminate the deficit of 6.3 billion CFA francs (126 million French francs) remaining in the 1985 budget estimates? This was the question to which some 2,500 delegates from the provinces, the CDR's, the services, and the trade unions were to find an answer on Monday evening. Throughout the night of Sunday to Monday, numerous proposals — which were more or less well received — were made until 0800: alignment of the salaries of the military and the semi-public sector with those of the public service; taxation of the excess profits of companies; suspension of the payment of allowances for 6 months accompanied by the freezing of prices of essential commodities for the same duration....

Facing the crowd, the authorities responsible for economic policy led by Economic Promotion Minister Henri Zongo listened to the proposals and intervened from time to time.

"This is no longer the time when the budget was secretly prepared in the ministerial offices. It must now be the affair of the entire revolutionary people," a senior Burkinabe official affirmed. Opening the debate which was broadcast live by the radio, Captain Zongo presented the choices open to the country: "A budget of social justice expressing the people's will, thanks to investments, or the adoption of a policy of persistence in the wrong direction, as existed at the time of the preceding regimes and which resulted in running into debt." "The next budget aims at two objectives." It is specified in well-informed Burkinabe circles: "To restore the state's prestige by honoring its outstanding debts and ensure a level of investments sufficient for the creation of job opportunities."

Although it is more moderate compared to those of some of its neighbors, Burkina Faso's public debt charge, which has been multiplied by three in the space of 4 years, will next year amount to 15 billion CFA francs (300 million French francs), including 4.4 billion CFA francs (88 million French francs) of outstanding debts owed to suppliers. According to the official figures, this amount represents almost 25 percent of the budgeted revenue which is estimated at about 63 billion CFA francs (1.26 billion French francs).

"There is no question of our running further into debt — with the resulting limitation of our independence and sovereignty — as the preceding regimes had done by borrowing in dollars to increase salaries or buy expensive planes and helicopters," the same source affirmed. No decision seems to have been made concerning the conclusion of an agreement with the International

Monetary Fund — whose director for Africa visited Ouagadougou in November — which would open the way for the rescheduling of the public debt.

The budget deficit, which was estimated at 37.8 billion CFA francs [words indistinct] on 19 November, was gradually reduced to 6.3 billion (126 million French francs through the systematic reduction of expenditure and the creation of new taxes on tarred roads, petroleum products, tobacco, monopoly, and drinks. [sentence as received]

The measures finally proposed by the conference of the Maison du Peuple — the sacrifice of 1 month's salary by the highest paid members of the public and private sectors and the Army and of a half-month salary by the others, the 25 percent reduction of allowances (as in 1984), and the monthly contribution of 2,500 CFA francs by students — should make it possible to present a balanced budget of about 63 billion CFA francs and — it is hoped at the Ministry of the Budget — to even achieve a surplus.

CAPE VERDE

Angolan Delivers Dos Santos Message to Pereira

MB081050 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 8 Dec 84

[Text] Comrade Lucio Lara, the Central Committee secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party for organization, yesterday handed to President Aristides Pereira of Cape Verde a personal message from the Angolan head of state, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos. It is worth noting that Lucio Lara arrived in Praia yesterday from Bissau where he took part in a symposium promoted by the authorities of Guinea on Amilcar Cabral.

GHANA

Rawlings Returns From Lagos 4-Nation Summit

AB112218 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Excerpt] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings, returned to Accra this afternoon after attending a four-nation summit in Lagos. The other heads of state who attended the meeting were Presidents Eyadema of Togo, and Kerekou of Benin, and Major General Buhari of Nigeria. The summit signed a number of agreements covering extradition of criminals, security, political refugees, and trade and customs arrangements among the four countries.

Speaking on behalf of the delegation at Kotoka International Airport, the secretary for the interior, Mr Kofo Djin, who was a member of the delegation, said the agreements are to strengthen the basis of law and order within the subregion. They have also provided a clear procedure for dealing with wanted criminals.

Under the extradition agreement, Ghana can now request the repatriation of persons wanted for criminal offenses. He mentioned some of the crimes as smuggling, mineral and currency trafficking. Mr Djin said if the provisions are properly carried out, they will provide a framework for the movement of people in the subregion. He said provisions have been made for an annual meeting of organs of the four states to discuss bilateral issues.

He said one thing spectacular about the summit was that for the first time both the French and English-speaking countries have agreed to extradite criminals and this, he said, is a healthy sign for the region. Provisions for the agreement come into force as soon as they are ratified by member countries.

On the summit itself, Mr Djin said the chairman of the PNDC had fruitful discussions with all the heads of state who were present. He described the summit as very successful.

LIBERIA

PRC Vice Premier Arrives for 4-Day Visit

AB112030 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] The vice premier of the PRC, Tian Jiyun, today arrived in Monrovia on a 4-day official visit to Liberia. The Chinese vice premier and his delegation were met on arrival at the Roberts International Airport [RIA] by the vice president of the Interim National Assembly [INA], Dr Harry Moniba, members of the INA, Cabinet, and top brass of Armed Forces of Liberia, among others.

Dr Moniba welcomed Vice Premier Tian Jiyun to Liberia on behalf of the head of state, Commander in Chief Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, the government, and people of Liberia. He said relations between Liberia and China were cordial and expressed appreciation to the Chinese Government for considering the cementing of ties with Liberia one of its national goals. The INA vice president hoped that the visit of the Chinese vice premier would lay concrete support to relations between the two countries.

For his part, Vice Premier Tian thanked the government and people of Liberia for the warm welcome accorded him and his delegation, which he said was a reflection of the profound friendship between Liberia and China.

The Chinese vice premier said the purpose of his visit was to promote mutual understanding, renew Sino-Liberian friendship, as well as explore avenues for future cooperation between the two countries.

While in Liberia, Vice Premier Tian will hold talks with the Liberian leader and Vice President Moniba, as well as other officials of government, including Foreign Minister T. Ernest Eastman and Agriculture Minister Joseph Boakai.

The Chinese ambassador to Liberia, Liu Pu, led a delegation of Chinese Embassy staff to RIA to meet Vice Premier Tian. Prior to his visit to Monrovia, Vice Premier Tian paid similar visits to several West African countries, including Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Mali.

NIGERIA

Benin, Ghana, Togo Heads of State Depart Lagos

AB111615 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] The heads of state of Ghana, Togo, and Benin Republic have left Lagos for home after their 1-day summit meeting on cooperation and security. They were seen off at Murtala Muhammed International Airport by the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari; the chief of staff, supreme headquarters, Major General Tunde Idiagbon; and other top government functionaries.

A Radio Nigeria State House correspondent reports that before their departure, the three heads of state called on Gen Buhari at Dodan Barracks where they had closed-door discussions.

At a state dinner in their honor last night, Gen Buhari remarked that the Federal Military Government would give priority attention to the ratification of the three treaties signed yesterday. He said that by initialing the treaties, their joint overriding and imperative need for protecting the security and national interests of the subregion had proved triumphant. The head of state pointed out that the rationale behind the four-nation summit was for the promotion and enhancement of peace, as well as forging of closer ties among the countries in the subregion.

Responding on behalf of his colleagues, the Ghanaian head of state, Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, called for a framework for harnessing and developing energy resources among the countries. The Ghanaian leader said (?this type of) treaty should help member nations to cooperate effectively to give meaning to their common aspirations for a new and better way towards guaranteeing the progress of their people.

Fugitive Issue Settlement Crucial to UK Relations

AB111248 Lagos International Service in English 0930 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Viewpoint]

[Text] There is little doubt left now about the reluctance of the British Government to cooperate with the military administration in Nigeria on the extradition of those Nigerians on the list of wanted persons and who are at the moment taking sanctuary in the United Kingdom. These Nigerian fugitives are wanted back home to defend themselves against serious allegations of corruption.

The Nigerian authorities have obviously relied on the provisions of the extradition treaty between Nigeria and Britain to effect the return of the fugitives. Sadly, however, the British Government has not accorded priority attention to the issue. Moreover, the fugitives have been allowed to use British facilities, such as the British Broadcasting Corporation, BBC, to launch vituperations against Nigeria. It was on the BBC World Service that the most prominent of the fugitives, Umaru Dikko, announced his plans to carry out what he called a jihad against Nigeria.

In a situation like this, the British Government cannot expect that its relations with Nigeria will be normal. The position has even worsened when in July this year, Mrs Thatcher's administration attempted to link the Nigerian Government with the abortive kidnap of Umaru Dikko. Relations between the two countries thereafter took a downward trend when Britain precipitated the recall of each other's high commissioner.

The British Government has, by omission or commission, allowed the issue of the Nigerian fugitives in the United Kingdom to strain relations with Nigeria. As the Nigerian head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, declared in his foreign policy statement in Lagos, quote: The government and people of Nigeria are prepared without prejudice to her national interests to work in genuine friendship with Britain, which is Nigeria's largest trading partner in Europe and shares with us the bonds of membership of the Commonwealth, unquote.

The declaration by General Buhari exemplifies Nigeria's attachment to the historical bonds between her and Britain and also her willingness to see such bonds grow further to the mutual benefit of the two nations. But this is a situation that only materializes in an atmosphere of cordiality and reciprocity. It is clear therefore that the settlement of the issue of the Nigerian fugitives by extradition from Britain is crucial to the maintenance of good relations between the two countries. The ball is definitely in the British court.

Spanish Ship Captain Receives Death Sentence

AB112112 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Excerpt] The Port Harcourt Zone of the Special Tribunal on Miscellaneous Offences yesterday in Port Harcourt sentenced a Spanish ship captain, Jose Luis Pecina, to death for illegally exporting over 18,000 metric tons of automotive gas oil valued at over 2 million naira. Sentenced to death with him are two Nigerians, Andersen Dibay, who is a docking clerk with (Bortina) shipping agency, and Cyprian Obi, a customs officer.

Delivering judgment, the chairman of the tribunal, Mr Justice Okuchuku Okpene, orderd that the ship, *M.T. Isaiah*, which was used in committing the offense, be forfeited to the Federal Government. Mr Justice Okpene said that although the three accused pleaded not guilty to the two-count charge of illegally exporting gas oil in January and February, the tribunal found it difficult to believe that [words indistinct]. It declared that circumstantial evidence had shown that they committed the offense. It said that further evidence revealed that Andersen Dibay did not report the arrival of the ship to the customs authorities at the customs house, but made secret announcements with Cyprian Obi, who issued boarding certificates for the ship.

ANGOLA

Defense Minister Addresses MPLA Rally

B101430 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0915 GMT 10 Dec 84

[Speech by Defense Minister Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale at a rally marking the 28th anniversary of the founding of the MPLA and the 7th anniversary of its transformation into a Labor Party in 1 May Square in Luanda — live]

[Excerpts] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola and commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], comrade members of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party, comrade government members, comrade members of the party's youth organization, mass and social organizations, esteemed members of the diplomatic corps, comrade guests, comrades and compatriots: We are once again meeting at this historic square to enthusiastically and with revolutionary fervor hail the irreversible spirit of 10 December.

Comrades, Angola's independence raised hopes for the building of a new progressive and happy country for everybody. This is the supreme objective of our revolution. However, implementing a revolution and building a socialist nation is only possible with the existence of a Marxist-Leninist party capable of leading all sectors of national life in an organized manner toward the implementation of the objectives that have been laid down by the higher echelons of the party. Thus, at the end of the historic congress of the MPLA, the late Comrade President Dr Antonio Agostinho Neto said, and I quote, today we have come to the end of the congress. On 10 December 1956, the MPLA was founded and on 10 December 1977, under the silent gaze of Lenin, we founded the MPLA-Labor Party, unquote. [applause]

The party is the leading and organizing force of the Angolan society, for by rigorously fulfilling its guidelines, we shall proudly march toward new victories over imperialism. The imperialists and their agents are trying in various ways to undermine the internal unity of the MPLA-Labor Party and distort the true unity between the party and the people. [shours, applause]

As Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said, and I quote, the imperialists, in order to carry out their policy, are adopting specific activities in the propaganda, political, diplomatic and military fields to poison the public national and international opinion with press campaigns through newspapers, news agencies, South African broadcasting services and some radios of Western Europe carrying news, commentaries, and reports portraying distorted realities, stories, and anecdotes imagined about our country by mercenaries of the press. In this way they are following the policy of denigrating our party and the People's Republic of Angola. Unquote. [applause]

Comrades, you are already aware that the imperialists manufacture numerous slanderous claims against our party, the government and the leaders, thereby trying to put responsibility on the progressive regime of Angola for the situation currently prevailing. There are some less politically aware people who still believe in those slanderous claims and rumors. However, those comrades and compatriots who daily suffer from the effects of the war know that the people who are mainly responsible for the prevailing situation are the imperialists and their lackeys.

It is necessary for all party members and all the people to strengthen their unity around the MPLA-Labor Party and behind Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to unmask the counterrevolutionary ideas which are still circulating in certain layers of our population. Only in this way can we act as one in accordance with the guideline of our party and deal even more severe blows to the imperialists.

Within a few days, as you comrades have learned from a resolution of the 15th plenary session of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party, we shall hold the first national party conference. This conference is of extreme importance for the strengthening of the party structures, and it will give a general analysis of the political military, economic, and social situation and take the necessary measures to solve many problems affecting us. Thus, party members and our entire people must pay particular attention to the analysis and discussion of the documents to be discussed at the conference so as to contribute toward the success of this conference.

Dear comrades and compatriots, the attacks and maneuvers carried out by imperialism against the People's Republic of Angola require that our party and government take concrete and immediate measures to defend our territorial integrity.

The defense of the fatherland is not a task which is the sole responsibility of FAPLA, and it is not only fulfilled by going to the battlefront. In the rearguard, by increasing production and productivity and heightening vigilance, each citizen modestly contributes to the defense of the revolution. People's vigilante brigades have been established in Luanda and other parts of the country as an organization aimed at complementing the efforts carried out by the defense and security organs to safeguard the hard-won gains of our people and to guarantee the restoration of tranquillity. [slogans, applause]

Many people have been joining the people's vigilante brigades. Nevertheless, its organization must be further strengthened so that in the rearguard we may count on detachments which are capable of detecting and neutralizing the agents of crime and counterrevolution. [slogans, applause]

The comrade officers, noncommissioned officers, soldiers, and sailors of the Armed Forces must also join the people's vigilante brigades in their residential areas. The fact that they are military does not prevent them from joining this organization. On the contrary, by joining this mass organization they will demonstrate their rich experience in the task of defense and vigilance. That is why it is important that every fighter should join the people's vigilante brigades at his residence. [slogans, applause]

Comrades and compatriots, our enemies who train and equip the UNITA puppet group from the illegally occupied territory of Namibia want to discredit our party and our government at all costs and block the advance of our revolution. That is why these

armed bandits and traitors of our fatherland concentrate their attacks on our important economic centers in order to carry out the orders of their imperialist masters.

Their work consists of destroying bridges, mining the farms of defenseless peasants, and killing compatriots who transport products in their vehicles from the countryside to the city and vice-versa, as well as destroying power pylons. In brief, their work consists of sabotaging the economic and social development of the People's Republic of Angola. In order to achieve their aims, these puppets attack defenseless villages, kidnap young men, women, and children and force them to follow them to the bush, where they are forced to carry out inhuman work to feed the bandits and where they must face famine, sickness, and nakedness. [slogans, applause]

The latest orders given to the puppets by their masters is to attack the areas producing coffee, diamonds, and oil so as to aggravate the difficulties that our people are facing. Thus, we are forced to defend ourselves from this undeclared war which is being waged against us by imperialism. This forces us to divert big amounts of currency which should be used to acquire means to improve the wellbeing of our populations.

The enemy is waging war in order to make us run short of our resources and prevent the economic and social progress of our country with a view to discrediting the revolutionary spirit of our people and see Angola plunged into neocolonialism. It is because of this that Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, in his new year message in 1984, directed our entire people to organize an economy that supports war and wage war to defend the economy. [slogans, applause]

We have to fight our enemies both on the battlefront and in the rearguard. That is why it is important that civilian workers in the countryside and in the cities should increase production and productivity, while not ignoring vigilance, which is anextremely important factor. [slogans, applause]

Dear comrades and compatriots, the international political situation, as was stated by our Central Committee in its last ordinary session, continues to be characterized by the growing heightening of the contradictions between the peace-loving progressive forces and the reactionary forces of international imperialism as a consequence of the relentless arms race of the warmongering circles headed by the United States.

I must, however, tell the comrades that for a long time to come imperialism and its lackeys will orchestrate maneuvers against our country. You know that almost the entire Western press says that Angola is discussing with the American Government the withdrawal of the Ciban internationalist forces from Angola, and they purposely omit the problem regarding the independence of Namibia and the occupation of southern Angola by the South African racist forces.

The truth of the matter is that Angola and the United States are discussing the bases for a general agreement, the platform of which was presented by our government with the same constructive spirit of achieving peace and stability in south Africa.

All of you comrades know the Angolan position regarding the presence of the Cuban internationalist forces in our country. Our position is clearly expressed in the joint declarations by the governments of Cuba and Angola on 4 February 1982 and 19 March 1984, and in the public statement made by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos on the occasion of the visit of the UN secretary general on 26 August 1983.

These positions continue to be valid and that is why the speech made by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos during the 20th OAU heads of state and government summit has been having a great impact in the international arena, in that it constitutes a deep and objective examination of the prevailing situation in southern Africa.

Dear comrades, the important letter from the Angolan head of state to Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary general, and the platform containing the latest Angolan proposals aimed at rapidly solving the Namibian issue on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 and for the governments of Angola and Cuba to initiate the gradual withdrawal of Cuban internationalists, constitutes the most recent proof of the valuable contribution of the Government of the People's Republic of Angola to finding a solution to the prevailing conflict in this region of our continent. [applause]

Upon ratifying the decision by the Government of Angola to continue to fight for the restoration of peace in southern Africa, Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos reiterated our desire to continue to mount diplomatic activity in search of a just solution by reaffirming the following:

1. The conclusion of an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the South African forces which occupy part of our territory;

2. The immediate implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 leading to true independence for Namibia;

3. The cessation of South African aggression against Angola;

4. The cessation of all kinds of logistical support for the UNITA puppet gangsters.

As you can see, comrades, and as it has been stated by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, and I quote, Angola has already demonstrated its flexibility, without wanting to jeopardize its national interests and sovereignty. It is interested in being flexible in finding satisfactory solutions. That is why it has been holding discussions with South Africa and the United States and making constructive proposals, unquote. Accordingly, the Government of the People's Republic of Angola reaffirms its total readiness to contribute in a constructive way toward the achievement, through diplomacy, of a just and lasting peace in southern Africa.

We also reaffirm our solidarity with the liberation movements which fight for the liberation of their peoples in Namibia and South Africa, namely SWAPO and the ANC, and we reiterate the indestructible friendship and fraternity binding our party, people, and government to the countries of the socialist community, particularly the USSR and Cuba. [applause]

Comrades and compatriots, as you have certainly been aware, in recent days we have been observing the presentation to our authorities of a number of compatriots who, for a long time, have been subjected to false promises by Angolan traitors in the pay of imperialism. Many of these compatriots were taken to the bush by force from their homes, schools, factories, and so forth in order to join the ranks of the puppets and commit atrocities. A number of other compatriots have, for various reasons, been misled by the false propaganda of the puppet gangsters and remained in the bush for a long time.

However, today, some of these compatriots have ceased to believe in false promises of achievement of independence because Angola has been independent since 11 November 1975. They are now presenting themselves to the Angolan authorities in various parts of our country. These compatriots are determined to reintegrate into the big Angolan family, and our party, guided by the policy of clemency gives them this possibility, thus enabling them to take part in the process of national reconstruction. The attitude of these compatriots should serve as an example to all those who still remain in the bush making unnecessary sacrifice, because, as has been said by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, UNITA has no future in Angola. It will either be dismantled by its masters or our people will see to its destruction. [applause]

Accordingly, to the individuals who persist in commiting crimes against our people, there is only one alternative: to voluntarily hand themselves over to the Angolan authorities, because otherwise they will be captured by our defense and security forces and turned over to revolutionary justice. As proof of what awaits individuals who persist in massacring our people and sabotaging our national economy, we are going to present to the public some puppet elements captured by FAPLA during the offensive mounted in Bengo. We are also going to present to the public those who handed themselves over voluntarily. [applause]

Comrades and compatriots, as you have heard and seen, a number of these compatriots have presented themselves to our forces. Others were captured. We shall deal with those who were captured and give a chance to those who presented themselves voluntarily to our forces. [applause]

Comrades and compatriots, for the total annihilation of the counterrevolution it is necessary to mobilize all people toward the tasks of defense and production. I take this opportunity to appeal to party members and members of the party youth wing to engage themselves with greater devotion and dynamism in the implementation of the objectives and guidelines of the party. Let us strengthen the party for the consolidation of the angolan revolution. [slogans, applause]

UNITA's Savimbi on Talks with Cuba, USSR

PA111947 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1913 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Lisbon, 11 Dec (DPA) — Jonas Savimbi, leader of the guerrilla National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), today demanded direct peace negotiations with Cuba and the Soviet Union in a communique released in Lisbon. "As long as Cuba and the USSR do not decide to establish a dialogue with UNITA, all of the recent proposals announced by the government of Luanda regarding the withdrawal of Cuban troops are but mere propaganda," the communique stated.

Meanwhile, in the Portuguese capital, UNITA reported that 112 Angolan Army soldiers and 20 Cubans were killed in guerrilla attacks in four Angolan provinces. At the same time, UNITA stated that it sustained 17 casualties in the actions staged on Angolan territory in the past 3 weeks.

UNITA Announces Casualties in Operations

PA101409 Paris AFP in English 1340 GMT 10 Dec 84

[Text] Lisbon, Dec 10 (AFP) — The opposition Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) said today it had killed 112 government soldiers and 20 Cuban troops in operations between November 28 and December [words indistinct] four Angolan provinces.

A UNITA statement received here said the guerrillas shot down a plane flown by Cubans carrying out a reconnaissance flight near Domba and Nova Gaia, in Malange Province. An Angolan soldier was taken prisoner, 173 weapons seized, and two tanks and 12 vehicles destroyed in the attacks, the statement said. The guerrillas lost five men, 11 were wounded, and one is missing following the operations, UNITA said.

Meanwhile, in a report monitored here, the Angolan Government news agency (ANGOP) reported that UNITA guerrillas had killed 85 civilians during a raid on a village in the Central Province of Huambo. ANGOP did not say when the raid took place.

LESOTHO

Jonathan Comments on Coup Plot in Address

MB111535 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] The prime minister, the right honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, has said that while it is true that in some countries the armed forces overthrow governments because of inefficiency, in most cases the secret police services of foreign powers intervene to install governments that favor the interests of the foreign powers.

Addressing thousands of Basotho yesterday on the second anniversary of the commemoration of the invasion of Maseru by the South African Defense Force, which left 42 Basotho nationals and South African refugees dead, Dr Jonathan disclosed that there was currently a plot to overthrow the Lesotho Government. The plot involved our own nationals in collaboration with the secret police of foreign powers.

The prime minister said that the attempt, which involved some civil servants and members of the Armed Forces, had been hatched because he had refused to become a puppet that would serve the interests of foreign powers. Dr Jonathan went on to say that earlier in the year he had been under great pressure to sign the so-called peace treaty with South Africa, but after extensive

consultations with the Basotho people he refused to sign, because such a treaty was unnecessary. He said he only draws his mandate from the Basotho people with whom the power to rule lies. He added that it is only just and democratic that he draws his power from the people.

The prime minister said the youth league of the Basotho National Party [BNP] which had organized the commemoration ceremony will continue to earn respect of the Basotho people throughout Lesotho for having honored the 42 martyrs of freedom and human rights. He said it was a source of great consolation to Basotho when his majesty the king led the Lesotho delegation to the United Nations to protest against the invasion of Lesotho by South Africa. The United Nations, as a result, passed Resolution 537, which, among other things, asked South Africa to declare never to attack us again and to give compensation for the lives and property lost in the invasion. Unfortunately, Dr Jonathan said, South Africa did not comply with the provisions of the resolution and instead claimed that Lesotho has to pay South Africa.

Speaking on the policy guidelines of the BNP, Dr Jonathan said that this government will only follow the dictates of party policy and will not deviate no matter how strong the pressures may be. He added that anyone who feels he does not toe the party line, whether he is a civil servant, a member of the Armed Forces, or any organ of state, is free to leave his job. The prime minister said that the party policy is so clear that our representatives abroad have very little trouble articulating it in any forum. The occasion was also attended by Cabinet ministers, state dignitaries, civil servants, chiefs, and thousands of Basotho.

MOZAMBIQUE

Sofala Leader Addresses Foreign Aid Workers

MB111957 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Marcelino dos Santos, a member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau and the leader of Sofala Province, has underlined the need for foreign nationals rendering service in our country to collaborate in the fight against armed banditry. Marcelino dos Santos was addressing a group of foreign aid workers from Denmark, the Netherlands, Ireland, Sweden, Argentina, Canada, and Spain in Beira a few days ago. The meeting served to enlighten the foreign aid workers on the recent events in Mozambique, particularly the Nkomati Accord, and the present phase of struggle against the armed bandits.

Contract for Liquid Fuel Signed in Moscow

MB100955 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 10 Dec 84

[Text] Mozambique and USSR delegations held talks in Moscow last week at the end of which contracts were signed for the supply of Soviet liquid fuels to our country in 1985. According to today's edition of *NOTICIAS* newspaper, the Mozambican delegation to the talks was led by Minister of Industry and Energy Antonio Branco, and included Secretary of State for Defense Tomas Salomao. The Soviet delegation was led by Minister of Foreign Trade (Ima Seliov).

SOUTH AFRICA

Reportage, Commentary on U.S. Protests, Tutu

Attorney General on Tutu

MB120757 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] The attorney general of the Transvaal, Mr (Don Brunett), says people who encourage disinvestment overseas are not necessarily liable to prosecution. Mr (Brunett) was reacting in Pretoria to claims by Bishop Tutu that he could be sentenced to up to 5 years in jail if he attempted to persuade companies to withdraw thier investments in South Africa.

The attorney general said there was much room within the laws of the land for free criticism and free speech. He said the possibility of prosecution existed when a person's statements could be interpreted as an incitement to violence or the overthrow of the political or economic system.

Tutu's Approach 'Radical, Biased'

MB101630 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 10 Dec 84

[Station commentary: "Bishop Tutu And Politics"]

[Text] It is a pity that, instead of using positively his position as the Nobel Peace Prize winner of 1984, Bishop Desmond Tutu has adopted such radical and ridiculously biased approaches that he is rapidly becoming thoroughly discredited both at home and abroad. Indeed, there is mounting evidence that the bishop has overplayed his hand.

American President Ronald Reagan, it now appears, agreed to an audience with the Nobel Peace Prize winner mainly to inform Bishop Tutu about the changes that have indeed taken place in South Africa over the years. Bishop Tutu has been telling the world that the situation for black people has actually deteriorated in the past number of years. President Reagan — and, for that matter, anyone who has any knowledge whatsoever about this country — knows better, and the president told him so.

In South Africa itself, the leader of a black church group representing 4 million black people, Bishop Isaac Mokona, has thanked President Reagan for opposing Bishop Tutu's call for disinvestment in South Africa. At the same time, a famous columnist in the United States, Mr Pat Buchanan, has referred to the bishop as a political ignoramus, because he advocated disinvestment which, according to Buchanan, would hurt the black South Africans most.

In South Africa, English-language newspapers, which strongly oppose government policies, have lashed out repeatedly at Bishop Tutu and his views. one of the country's most liberal newspapers, the *SUNDAY EXPRESS*, declared in its latest issue: We take

the most sceptical view of a Nobel Prize winner who advocates any course of action calculated to lead to unemployment, civil unrest, confrontation, represession, and violent conflict. The newspaper describes as a lie Bishop Tutu's claim that conditions for black people in South Africa have deteriorated.

Another of the bishop's daring statements, which has caused a furore at home was when he declared that, should the Russians take over in South Africa, they would be regarded as saviours by the black people of the country. South Africa has an extremely religious black community, and they have made it clear that they would certainly not regard godless communists as their saviors.

Instead of enhancing his reputation, the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize has had the effect of making Bishop Tutu adopt stances which have had precisely the opposite effect, and have shown up Bishop Tutu as a politicaily naive radical.

Attention Focused on RSA

MB091040 Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans 5 Dec 84 p 14

[Editorial: "Continually Under the Spotlight"]

[Text] The series of anti-South African demonstrations in America once more points out that South Africa is at the focus of world attention because of its internal policy. South Africans who believe that, as in years gone by, we can freely continue despite world opinion do not realize how adversely we could be affected by unilateral action.

The demonstrations at the South African Embassy are in reality a well-planned publicity stunt. Although they are nothing more than a nuisance for the American police at the moment, President Reagan deemed it necessary this week to summon Dr Chester Crocker, his Africa-man, to the White House.

It is really also a sort of counterploy by the President, because, after the meeting, Dr Crocker took the opportunity to react to the criticism against American involvement in South Africa. Mr Reagan has, we believe, also gone along with the demonstrators by saying how strongly his administration abhors South Africa's internal policy. Apparently, this is specifically meant for the attention of Jesse Jackson and our own Bishop Tutu, who have hastily joined the demonstration chorus.

No matter what, world attention is focused on us, whether we like it or not. We will have to continue playing the game in such a way that those in power abroad will always see a chance of helping us progress toward a lasting solution.

PFP Spokesman on Reagan Statement

MB110602 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] The Progressive Federal Party's [PFP] spokesman on foreign affairs, Mr Colin Eglin, says President Reagan's statement that detainees in South Africa had been released as a result of quiet American diplomacy has remarkable implications. Mr Eglin said in Cape Town that if the detainees had been released because of an outside factor it underscored the arbitrary nature of the system of detention without trial. He said it also reinforced the view that these people should not have been detained in the first place.

U.S. Congressman Typifies 'Ignorance'

MB110936 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Station Commentary: "Ignorance About South Africa"]

[Text] Ignorance about South Africa among the general population of Western nations is understandable and acceptable. There is no onus on the man in the street to believe anything but the misinformation being spread by the leftist-dominated media. But ignorance on the part of an elected government official regarded as some sort of expert on South Africa is inexcusable.

If it were not so serious, the contribution of Congressman John Conyers of Michigan to a nationally televised program in the United States would have been laughable. Asked what action the American Government should take against the South African Government as an alternative to the policy of constructive engagement, Mr Conyers suggested, among other things, that the United States should stop its military aid to South Africa and withdraw its military advisors from the country.

It was left to the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, to point out on the same program that the United States does not provide South Africa with military aid nor does it have military advisors in the republic. As an elected government official, Mr Conyers ought to be aware of the fact that, along with other Western nations, the United States scrupulously adheres to the implementation of an arms embargo against South Africa imposed by the UN Security Council many years ago.

It serves to illustrate the extent of ignorance about South Africa among the world's politicians. It is this ignorance on which radical elements and lobbyists in the United States and elsewhere thrive. It's sustained and is exploited by groups such as the campaigners for disinvestment in South Africa. Few Americans would have been aware if Mr Conyers made a fool of himself on the ABC television program, "This Week With David Brinkley." It typified the sort of ignorance South Africa is up against in the outside world. It is for this reason that South Africa long ago came to the conclusion that its welfare depended on its own strength, economically and militarily, to the extent that today it is the strongest nation in Africa with the highest standard of living for all its peoples.

Ford Spokesman Cited

MB110606 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] American businessmen say the demonstrations in the United States against the domestic policies of South Africa have not changed their views about investments in South Africa. A

spokesman for the Ford Motor Company, Mr (Roland Williams), said that Ford continued to think that it was part of a constructive force for change in South Africa. Speaking in Washington, Mr (Williams) said that he and many other businessmen with interests in South Africa believed that their presence in South Africa was for the good of all South Africans.

Reports on Demonstrations, Arrests

MB111944 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] At least 20 people have been arrested in Washington and New York in the latest round of anti-apartheid demonstrations. Hundreds of people have demonstrated outside the South African Embassy in Washington sicne the protests began on 21 November. Among those taken away by police yesterday were Congressman Mickey Leland and two local religious leaders. The three linked arms and sang "We Shall Overcome" on the steps of the embassy.

Earlier arrestees included actor and vice president of the American Jewish Congress, Theodore Bikel, and civil right pioneer Rosa Parks, Mrs Parks was first arrested in Alabama in 1955 when she refused to give up her bus seat to a white.

Meanwhile, several top American businessmen have said anti-apartheid demonstrations have not changed their view that investment in South Africa couild be used to promote racial equality in this country.

Further Reportage on Detainees, Durban 3

Treason Charges From 1981-84 Acts

MB120915 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 12 Dec 84 p 2

[By Anton Harber, political reporter]

[Text] The high treason charges against six prominent members of the United Democratic Front relate to activities that date back to before the formation of the UDF.

Although no detailed charge sheet was presented when the six appeared in court on Monday, it was stated that the charges related to activities between 1981 and 1984.

Since the UDF was only formed in 1983, this implies that the charges also relate to their activities in the Anti-South African Indian Council (Anti-SAIC) campaign in 1981 and in the Release Mandela Campaign.

It is understood that the trial is expected to last between 12 and 18 months and the state intends calling more than 150 witnesses.

This sets the scene for a long and complicated trial with the State attempting to paint a detailed and diverse picture of treason.

Of the six accused, at least four played key roles in the Anti-SAIC campaign. These were Dr Essop Jassat, president of the Transvaal Indian Congress [TIC], Mr George Sewpersadh, president of the Natal Indian Congress (NIC), Mr Mewa Ramgobin, NIC vice-president, and Mr M.J. Naidoo, also of the NIC.

The other two — Mr Curtis Nkondo and Mr Aubrey Mokoena — are respectively the chairman and publicity secretary of the Release Mandela Committee in the Transvaal.

All six have also been prominent in the UDF in the past year.

Apart from high treason, they are facing alternative charges of subversion and furthering the aims of a banned organisation.

This follows the pattern of the last few years, when political activists have generally faced trial under ordinary criminal law — for treason or murder — with alternative charges under the Internal Security Act.

This trial is one of a huge spate of political trials scheduled for the next few months.

According to the Detainees Parents Support Committee (DPSC), more than 30 political trials involving 160 people are scheduled for this month.

Another 19 trials involving about 104 people have already been scheduled for January, and nine trials involving 93 people are scheduled for February.

Most arise form the recent unrest and stayaway, and involve charges of public violence, attending illegal gatherings, possessing banned literature or subversion.

The TIC said yesterday the only crime committed by the six opposition leaders charged with high treason this week was that they had "unwaveringly resisted the crime of apartheid".

The TIC welcomed the release of their vice-president, Dr Saloojee, and others, but deplored the treason charges laid against their president, Dr Jassat, and five others.

The TIC has called a public protest meeting in Fordsburg on tomorrow night. "In the eyes of our people these leaders are innocent. We call for their immediate and unconditional release," it said.

The TIC statement also said that it did not consider the release from detention of Dr Saloojee and others as an act of good faith by the Government. "On the contrary, it is our contention that they should not have been detained in the first place," it said.

UDF Members Criticize U.S., UK

MB111710 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1706 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 11 SAPA — The three United Democratic Front [UDF] dissidents in the British Consulate in Durban for the past three months are to leave the premises tomorrow, it was

announced in Durban today, in a statement which strongly condemned the British and American governments.

Reading the statement on behalf of the three fugitives, the Natal Indian Congress [NIC] acting president, Dr Farouk Meer, said the dissidents had focused world attention on detention without trial.

The three men, Mr Billy Nair, Mr Archie Gumede, and Mr Paul David, were to be served with detention orders under section 28 of the Internal Security Act before they took refuge with three other NIC colleagues on September 13 this year. Mr Mewa Ramgobin, Mr George Sewpersadh, and Mr M.J. Naidoo left the Consulate in October.

Mr Meer said the remaining three would leave at 4:30 pm tomorrow "after having fought a very successful campaign against detention without trial."

Dr Meer said the three fugitives and their colleagues in the NIC and UDF "condemn the ignominious role of the British Government" in the 3-month sit-in. Britain, who steadfastly denied to accede to the demands of the fugitives in the Consulate, was "paralyzed by its own greed and self-interest and could not offer even a whimper of protest," Dr Meer said.

"Our oppressed people will always remember the British Government is not on the side of democracy," Dr Meer said, adding that Britain "clearly played a role supportive of the South African Government and acted in collusion with it."

Dr Meer attacked the official stance of the U.S. administration, whose embassy in South Africa denied to accept the fugitives request for sanctuary earlier this year.

Referring to the three ex-consulate NIC members who were rearrested yesterday and charged with treason and other counts under the Internal Security Act, the NIC leader said: "The U.S. Government's policy of constructive engagement has succeeded in securing a treason trial which could carry the death penalty for the leaders of our people."

A spokesman for the British Embassy in Pretoria said on hearing of the fugitives intention to leave the consulate: "It would appear they have accepted our point of view." He did not want to comment further at present.

In their statement, read by Dr Meer, the three men requested that the British Government allow their families to visit them tomorrow and that a press conference be allowed on the premises before they leave. They also asked permission to hold prayer meeting in the consulate.

Dr Meer said later that although no official notice had been given that the three men would be arrested as soon as they left the Consulate, police presence had since yesterday been strengthened in the vicinity of the Barclays Bank building where the dissidents have been holding out. "The police seem to become anxious whenever there is the possibility of anyone coming out," Dr Meer said.

Dr Meer said the three dissidents did not fear the consequences of their decision to leave the consulate. "We know that a long and hard struggle awaits our people and we are prepared to play whatever role is necessary in that struggle. The courage and struggle of the oppressed people can never be crushed by oppression," Dr Meer said, "and we will win liberation regardless of government action." The Department of Foreign Affairs was not immediately available for comment.

British: No Press Conference

MB120903 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0830 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] The three men in the British Consulate in Durban will not, as apparently planned, be allowed to hold a news conference before leaving the building this afternoon. A spokesman for the ambassador in Pretoria said in response to a question by our political correspondent that it would be tantamount to misusing the Consulate for political purposes.

Durban 3 Refuse To Leave

MB121203 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] The three activists who have been ensconced in the British Consulate in Durban since September 13th have decided to delay their departure from the building after being refused permission to hold a news conference before they left the Consulate as planned this afternoon.

Our Durban news staff reports that the three men decided to remain on in the Conuslate after the British authorities and the landlorfs of the building had refused to allow the men to hold a news conference and a prayer service in the building before their walkout.

A spokesman for the British Embassy Mr (John Hedley) said that the holding of a news conference in the Consulate in Durban would be tantamount to abusing the Consulate for political purposes and would not be allowed. A spokesman for the owners of the building said two requests had been turned down because of the large press core expected at the consulate this afternoon, and also because facilities were inadequate to accommodate such a gathering.

Earlier, a spokesman for the three men, Dr Farook Meer, told newsmen that the three would conduct a news conference in the Consulate at 1430 this afternoon and move out of the Consulate at 1630. Dr Meer is the acting president of the Natal Indian Congress. The three men are Mr Archie Gumede, Mr Billy Nair, and Mr (David Paul). They consulted with their legal representative Mr (Zaki Koo) yesterday before announcing that they would leave the Consulate.

At the weekend the South African Government revoked detention orders against the three, and on Monday the British Government said that there was no longer any valid reason for them to stay in the consulate and that they should leave immediately.

4 Rail Lines Closed After Bombing, 2 Injured

MB112024 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2018 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] A bomb explosion shook Durban tonight. The bomb went off at a railway line about two kilometres north of the main railway station. A passing goods train was damaged by the explosion and two drivers of the train are believed to have been slightly injured.

A transmission box was completely destroyed and four railway tracks leading into Durban had to be closed to rail traffic as all the points south of the explosion had been put out of action. Residents within a 5-kilometer radius of the blast heard the explosion. According to a police spokesman the bomb exploded at 8:23 pm. A man was said to have been seen running from the scene shortly before the explosion.

A night watchman at the nearby Lion Match factory, Mr Robert Sithole, said he had heard a "terrible explosion." Several factory windows were cracked. Security police later confirmed to Mr Sithole that a bomb had exploded at the Umgeni Station. The security officer for Lion Match, Mr Mathews, and guards were at present checking the factory premises for any damage.

Buthelezi Concerned About Black Disunity

MB120800 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] The chief minister of KwaZulu, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, says he is concerned that black people will not get to the negotiating table because of disunity and disarray in their ranks. Speaking in an interview with the South African Broadcasting Corporation, Chief Buthelezi said black people were physically fighting against each other and this could enable white South Africa to say it could not negotiate because of the confusion in the black community.

Chief Buthelezi said organizations and leaders who were trying to present themselves as the main representatives of black South Africa were making a serious mistake. He said claims that the ANC and PAC represented the majority of blacks were laughable.

ZIMBABWE

Banana, Mugabe Congratulate Kenya's Moi

MB120658 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] The president, Comrade Cannan Banana, and the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, have sent congratulatory messages to President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya on the occasion of his country's national day today. Comrades Banana and Mugabe expressed satisfaction at the relations between Zimbabwe and Kenya. The prime minister assured the Kenyan leader of Zimbabwe's unwavering support for forces that are fighting against imperialism, apartheid, and Zionism.

Appeal to Italy To Oppose RSA on Namibia

MB110941 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 11 Dec 84

[Text] Zimbabwe has appealed to Italy to join hands with forces seeking an end to South Africa's policy of racial segregation and its illegal occupation of Namibia. The call was made by the acting minister of foreign affairs, Comrade (Simbarache Mbengengwe), at a dinner in honor of the outgoing Italian ambassador to Zimbabwe, Dr Elio Pesso, yesterday. Comrade (Mbengegwe) pointed out that the Frontline States have resorted to use the defense (?budget) in an effort to counter the belligerent policy of the Pretoria regime whose destabilization activities are undermining development in southern Africa.

He noted that the volume of trade between Zimbabwe and Italy has increased since independence, and thanked the Italian Government for the expansion of bilateral relations. Total (Italian assistance) to Zimbabwe has amounted to more than $70 million during the past 4 years. Under a $78-million agreement signed recently, Italy is to fund development projects in Zimbabwe over the next 3 years.